

GRAND LODGE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GRAND LODGE OF PENNSYLVANIA,

F. and A. M.

BEING EXTRACTS FROM THE MINUTES OF ITS
QUARTERLY AND ANNUAL GRAND
COMMUNICATIONS.

During the Year A.D. 1874—A.L. 5874.



PHILADELPHIA.

A. C. BRYSON & CO., PRINTERS, 607 CHESTNUT STREET.

1875.



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Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

Held at Philadelphia, June 3d, 1874, A. L. 5874.

Brother ALFRED R. POTTER, Right Worshipful Grand Master, in the Chair.

A circular was received from Bro. H. HAMBURGER, acting Master of Louisiana Relief Lodge, No. 1, soliciting Masonic relief on account of distress caused by the inundation of the Mississippi.

On motion, the matter was referred to a special Committee of seven, and the Right Worshipful Grand Master was pleased to appoint

Brother SAMUEL C. PERKINS,
“ HORACE FRITZ,
“ HENRY J. WHITE,
“ CHARLES H. KINGSTON,
“ JOHN L. THOMSON,
“ HENDRICK B. WRIGHT, and
“ SAMUEL B. DICK,

as that Committee; and on motion of Past Grand Master Brother SAMUEL C. PERKINS, an appropriation of \$1000 was made out of the funds of the Grand Lodge for that purpose.

The Committee on Appeals made the following report, which was approved and the resolution attached thereto was adopted :

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPEALS.

THE Committee on Appeals heard the several parties in the case of C—— *vs.* J——, of Lodge No.——, and their respective allegations. They also received a written statement, submitted by the Lodge.

The charges alledged, unmasonic conduct, and the use of threatening, violent and unmasonic language on the part of Brother J—— towards Brother C——.

The alledged unmasonic conduct and the use of the language complained of, occurred at, or about, the location of a party-fence and wall between the premises of Brother C—— and Brother J——.

The Lodge appointed a committee, and were attended by another brother as the representative of Brother J——, who claimed, very properly, that as the dispute in regard to the party line was then pending in the courts of Luzerne county, the Lodge could not entertain jurisdiction of the same. The committee and the Lodge sustained this objection, and your committee endorse their action, and emphatically re-affirm the frequent decision of this Grand Lodge, that neither the Subordinate Lodges nor this Grand Lodge, should, or will, by Masonic action, interfere with any question in litigation, which may affect the character, life, liberty or property of any citizen of this Commonwealth.

At the same time Brother J——, by his representative, admitted, before the committee, that he had used a portion of the language charged in the specifications, and asked the forgiveness of his Lodge and of Brother C——. The Lodge thereupon accepted this statement as a satisfactory settlement of the difficulty. We would suggest that in similar cases the offending brother should appear in person before the Lodge, or its committee, for the purpose of effecting a final and complete reconciliation with his Lodge and the injured brother. In the present case, C——— Lodge, by a very large majority of the members present, accepted the resolution as a finality, and we are not disposed to interfere with their decision.

Brother J——, however, denied that he had used, upon a certain occasion, the violent language and threats set forth in one of the specifications, and that thereupon Brother C—— asked for permission to bring his witnesses before the committee, who, by vote, declined to hear them, because they, the witnesses, were not Masons,—and the Lodge sustained their decision.

In this we think there was grave error. In some cases, the scandal and wrong would be greatly magnified, and yet escape unpunished, if the unjust language were used between two members of the Lodge, in the presence of their neighbors, who can only know of Masonry by the “walk and conversation” of Masons. These witnesses should have been heard, upon their simple statement of the language used and of the occurrence.

As the threatening language charged does not involve the character of Brother C——; and, if used, was uttered in passion and in connection with a dispute about party lines; your committee does not deem the matter worthy of re-examination by C——— Lodge, whose attention, however, should be called to the conclusions of this committee, in the hope that all unseemly altercations between brethren, otherwise worthy, will be prevented by firm and impartial action. Your Committee offer the following :

Resolved, That the appeal of C—— from the action of Lodge No——, in relation to certain charges preferred by him against Brother J——, be hereby dismissed.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES PAGE,
Chairman Committee of Appeals.

THE Right Worshipful Grand Master announced the decease of our Right Worshipful Past Grand Master SAMUEL H. PERKINS, when Past Grand Master Brother JAMES PAGE read a touching Memorial of his Masonic and Christian career, and offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge learns of the death of its late Right Worshipful Past Grand Master Brother SAMUEL H. PERKINS with sincere regret and profound sorrow, allayed by the fact that he has gone to his grave "full of years and full of honors." He is a loss not only to this Order, of which he was for so many years an honorable, useful, and efficient member, but to the community at large, in which his sphere of usefulness was widely extended, and generally and profitably felt.

Resolved, That as his Masonic career was pure and unspotted, so his private life exhibited a rare combination of those virtues which constitute the true man and good citizen ; his Christian sympathies finding their happiest exercise in all movements designed for individual relief, and for the promotion of the common welfare.

Resolved, That although "the place which has known our brother shall know him no more," yet "his name shall not be lost," for we will write it in our hearts ; "it shall live in his virtues which shall live in us and in every brother," for "he was worthy" in the light of his Masonic spirit, and in the faith of his Masonic heart.

Resolved, That the condolence of this Grand Lodge is tendered to his family and friends, who, while mourning their loss, can take comfort from the word of the Supreme Grand Master of the Universe: "And it shall come to pass when I bring a cloud over the earth that the bow shall be seen in the cloud."

Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

Held at Philadelphia, September 2d, A. D. 1874, A. L. 5874.

ALFRED R. POTTER, ESQ., Right Worshipful Grand Master, in the Chair.

The Grand Secretary reported that Lodge No. 446 had its warrant suspended for having failed to pay its dues for two years, but that now said dues had been paid. On motion, therefore, it was

Resolved, That the Warrant of Lodge No. 446 be revived, and that the action of said Lodge thereof, after notice that the Warrant was suspended, is hereby confirmed.

The Grand Secretary presented his Annual Report as to the Lodges and Members of this Jurisdiction, as follows:

To the R. W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania:

THE Grand Secretary respectfully presents the following Annual Report of the Lodges, and Members of this Jurisdiction as they were on St. John's Day, December 27th, 1873:

The number of Lodges December 29th, 1872, was	-	345
Constituted in 1873,	- - - - -	9
		<hr/> 354
Charter of Lodge No. 279, at Carmichaels, returned by		
the Lodge,	- - - - -	1
		<hr/> 353
Leaving the number of Lodges, December 27th, 1873,		353
The number of Members December 27th, 1872, was		36,185
Subsequent corrections,	- - - - -	5
		<hr/> 36,190
Admitted in 1873,	- - - - -	659
Initiated,	- - - - -	2,665
		<hr/> 39,514
Resigned in 1873,	- - - - -	820
Suspended,	- - - - -	736
Deceased,	- - - - -	412
		<hr/> 1,968
		<hr/> 37,546
Leaving the Number of Members Dec. 27th, 1873,		37,546.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

JOHN THOMSON,
Grand Secretary.

LIST OF LODGES.

ABSTRACT OF RETURN OF LODGES FOR 1874.

No. OF LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	MEMBERS Dec. 27th, 1873.	ADMITTED.	INITIATED.	RESIGNED.	SUSPENDED OF EXPELLED.	DIED.
2	Philadelphia.....	244	4	29	2	...	...
3	Philadelphia.....	237	1	11	...	4	7
9	Philadelphia.....	200	3	14	1	...	2
19	Philadelphia.....	292	1	18	3	4	7
21	Harrisburg.....	179	4	3	...	7	...
22	Sunbury.....	139	4	4	1	...	1
25	Bristol.....(1 P. G. M.)	155	...	1	1	...	...
43	Lancaster.....	300	6	7	5	16	2
45	Pittsburg.....	178	...	4	2	2	2
51	Philadelphia.....(2 P. G. M.)	222	2	17	1	...	4
52	Philadelphia.....	183	...	5	2	2	5
59	Philadelphia.....	399	4	25	2	1	3
60	Brownsville.....	70	1	1	3	3	1
61	Wilkesbarre.....	169	2	15	2	...	4
62	Reading.....	330	1	16	1	1	9
67	Philadelphia.....	217	...	4	3	3	6
70	Athens.....	82	...	1	7	5	1
71	Philadelphia.....	256	2	6	2	3	7
72	Philadelphia.....	267	3	22	1	4	3
75	Phoenixville.....	159	1	13	...	2	2
81	Chestnut Hill.....	114	...	3	1	13	1
91	Philadelphia.....	187	6	11	1	1	4
106	Williamsport.....	201	1	5	6	5	4
108	Towanda.....	163	10	9	1	1	...
114	Philadelphia.....	240	...	5	...	5	6
115	Philadelphia.....	251	2	17	2	2	1
121	Philadelphia.....	250	2	15	2	5	...
125	Philadelphia.....	233	1	18	2	1	2
126	Philadelphia.....(1 P. G. M.)	204	4	17	2	5	1
130	Philadelphia.....	322	5	7	1	8	11
131	Philadelphia.....	117	4	21	...	3	2
134	Philadelphia.....(1 P. G. M.)	178	2	11	...	...	6
135	Manayunk.....	170	2	6	1	7	4
138	Orwigsburg.....	57	1	...	...	3	1
143	Chambersburg.....	94	...	6	1	2	1
144	Lewisburg.....	82	...	2	...	...	...
152	Easton.....	297	4	18	7	2	3

No. OF LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	MEMBERS	ADMITTED.	INITIATED.	RESIGNED.	SUSPENDED OR EXPELLED.	DIED.
		Dec. 27th, 1873.					
153	Waynesburg.....	68	1	6	1	6	....
155	Philadelphia.....(1 P. G. M.)	404	2	25	4	5	10
156	Drumore Centre.....	144	....	6	3	....	3
158	Philadelphia.....	450	2	30	2	1	6
163	Monroeton.....	61	....	8	2	3	....
164	Washington.....	76	2	....	5	5	....
186	Philadelphia.....	410	4	14	1	6	6
187	Philadelphia.....	267	3	10	....	3	3
190	Norristown.....	199	3	12	2	....	2
194	Selinsgrove.....	130	1	....	6	8	2
197	Carlisle.....	86	....	1	....	10	4
199	Lockhaven.....	198	2	8	7	....	2
203	Lewistown.....	114	1	8	2	....	2
211	Philadelphia.....	366	4	17	3	....	5
216	Pottsville.....	225	1	9	2	7	2
218	Honesdale.....	146	1	1	5	2	3
219	Pittsburg.....	281	2	11	2	....	8
220	Hollidaysburg.....	112	....	2	2	....	1
221	Pittsburg.....	222	2	8	2	15	2
222	Minersville..	86	....	....	....	6	2
223	Allegheny.....	159	2	16	9	8	1
224	Danville.....	107	....	1	....	7	....
225	Greensburg.....	151	1	3	3	....	1
226	Lebanon.....	154	1	3	1	4	2
227	Reading.....	365	2	14	3	5	6
228	Uniontown.....	98	4	3	1	....	3
229	Rochester.....	126	3	4	3	....	....
230	Philadelphia.....	245	6	12	2	8	4
231	Pittsburg.....	101	....	3	1	1	....
232	Jersey Shore.....	55	1	5	....	1	2
233	Pittston.....	176	....	4	3	....	2
234	Meadville.....	157	2	5	2	6	....
236	Chester.....	193	2	5	1	....	2
237	Beallsville.....	59	1	2	2	5	3
238	Tamaqua.....	145	1	1	....	....	....
239	Freeport.....	40	....	1	2	4	....
240	Montrose.....	176	1	....	4	9	3
241	Warren.....	118	3	9	1	11	1
242	Mauch Chunk.....	129	....	8	2	....	2
243	New Castle.....	119	2	8	3	7	3
244	Kittanning.....	106	4	2	10	....	2
245	Doylestown.....	173	....	12	1	4	....
246	Philadelphia.....	373	1	16	2	6	9
247	Mansfield.....	40	1	1	21	....	3
248	Tunkhannock.....	123	4	6	3	7	3
249	Carbondale.....	134	3	11	8	....	....

No. OF LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	MEMBERS	ADMITTED.	INITIATED.	RESIGNED.	SUSPENDED OR EXPELLED.	DIED.
		Dec. 27th, 1873.					
250	Sharon.....	110	7	23	2	5	1
251	Mercer.....	78	...	8	4	...	1
252	Fayette City.....	57	2	3	1	3	...
253	Pittsburg.....	140	1	7	1	...	1
254	Pottston.....	169	2	5	3	11	1
255	Shamokin.....	69	4	13	1	12	1
256	Milton.....	103	...	6	...	...	...
258	Conneautville.....	97	2	8	2	3	1
259	New Brighton.....	97	...	4	3	...	1
260	Carlisle.....	99	3	2	1	8	1
261	Providence.....	102	5	5	4	10	2
262	Orrstown.....	42	...	1	...	3	...
263	Laceyville.....	87	3	3	2	1	...
264	Columbus.....	82	...	2	2	1	1
265	Bloomsburg.....	132	2	2	3	...	...
266	York.....	144	1	3	4	2	1
267	Tremont.....	92	1	1	...	...	3
268	Bellefonte.....	136	4	5	4	...	3
269	Birmingham.....	152	2	9	5	10	1
270	Schuylkill Haven.....	75	...	6	3	...	...
271	Philadelphia.....	223	1	15	2	2	3
272	Butler.....	82	1	6	7	...	...
273	Athensville.....	94	3	9	2	2	3
274	Philadelphia.....	197	3	16	1	2	4
275	Latrobe.....	65	...	1	2	6	...
276	Brookville.....	158	1	8	6	...	...
277	Clarion.....	129	2	8	20	4	2
278	Johnstown.....	104	1	2	2	2	...
279	Carmichaels. (Charter returned.)	...	...	...	...	...	...
281	Altoona.....	118	1	2	...	5	2
282	Holidaysburg.....	79	...	4	1	...	3
283	Bethlehem.....	155	4	6	2	5	...
284	Catasauqua.....	120	...	2	...	1	...
285	St. Clair.....	78	...	1	2	...	1
286	Columbia.....	138	...	2	2	...	...
287	Pittsburg.....	281	1	7	6	...	...
288	Allegheny City.....	86	...	3	2	3	3
289	Philadelphia.....	174	1	8	1	...	1
290	Greenville.....	106	1	5	1	6	1
291	Scranton.....	170	4	14	1	...	2
292	Philadelphia.....	275	1	14	6	3	2
294	Ashland.....	158	2	13	1	4	...
295	Philadelphia.....	227	5	20	...	1	5
296	Philadelphia.....	210	1	6	2	15	1
297	Cannonsburg.....	76	2	15	1	1	...
298	Media.....	95	...	7	...	...	...

No. OF LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	MEMBERS Dec. 27th, 1873	ADMITTED.	INITIATED.	RESIGNED.	SUSPENDED OR EXPELLED.	DIED.
299	Muncy.....	83	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
300	Huntingdon.	134	2	8	.....	.....	3
301	Waverly.....	81	1	1	4	.....	1
302	Mechanicsburg.....	146	.....	4	2	7	3
303	Titusville.....	259	6	12	9	5	1
304	Albion.....	88	.....	1	6	4	1
305	Hawley.....	62	.....	4	.....	6	1
306	Troy.....	137	1	7	2	8	.....
307	Womelsdorf.....	98	.....	3	.....	10	.....
308	Ft. Washington.....	91	.....	6	4	1	.....
309	Downingtown.....	104	.....	2	4	.....	.....
310	Trappe.....	62	.....	5	2	1	.....
311	Mount Bethel.....	68	1	1	1	.....	.....
312	Ebensburg.....	64	.....	2	4	11	.....
313	Indiana.....	57	1	5	.....	.....	.....
314	Clearfield.....	103	.....	6	4	.....	.....
315	Shippensburg.....	60	.....	1	4	5	.....
316	Franklin.....	122	3	3	3	5	3
317	Wellsboro.....	72	3	4	3	1	.....
318	Allegheny City.....	190	13	8	7	.....	5
319	Bloomfield.....	63	.....	3	1	.....	.....
320	Bedford.....	113	.....	6	17	.....	1
321	East Liberty.....	113	2	5	2	7	1
322	West Chester.....	107	.....	5	.....	2	2
323	Scranton.....	139	1	8	2	.....	1
324	Mifflintown.....	65	3	1	.....	4	2
325	Stroudsburg.....	116	.....	7	.....	.....	1
326	Trexlerstown.....	147	.....	8	.....	.....	3
327	Hazleton.....	138	.....	7	7	.....	1
328	Jackson.....	48	.....	1	1	1	1
329	Greensboro.....	29	.....	2	.....	15	.....
330	Hamiltonon.....	84	.....	2	1	5	1
331	Ligonier.....	50	1	2	1	.....	1
332	Plymouth.....	50	.....	3	2	.....	1
333	Allentown.....	152	2	2	2	1	2
334	Bradford.....	72	.....	1	1	.....	1
335	Montoursville.....	54	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
336	Gettysburg.....	77	.....	1	1	.....	1
337	Monongahela City.....	115	1	6	4	1	1
338	Great Bend.....	98	5	5	1	6	.....
339	Hyde Park.....	174	2	30	3	.....	3
340	Garrett's Siding.....	114	.....	7	.....	.....	.....
341	Factoryville.....	55	.....	2	3	2	.....
342	Coudersport.....	98	4	6	3	.....	.....
343	Cochranville.....	142	1	1	3	2	1
344	Milford.....	68	.....	1	1	.....	1

No. of Lodge.	WHERE HELD.	MEMBERS	ADMITTED.	INITIATED.	RESIGNED.	SUSPENDED OR EXPELLED.	DIED.
		Dec. 27th, 1873.					
345	Scranton	94	1	14	1	7	....
346	Connellsville.. ..	72	2	6	2	2	1
347	Girard	64	4	7	4	1	1
348	Hanover	45	....	2	4	6	....
349	Catawissa	137	....	3	2	....	....
350	Blossburg	113	....	6	1	....	1
351	Knoxville	22	....	....	2	6	....
352	Chester	71	....	7	....	....	1
353	Oxford	99	2	28	1	3	....
354	Shickshinny	65	....	3	....	....	1
355	Blairsville	55	1	5	1	....	2
356	Ten-Mile Village	37	....	....	1	16	....
357	Mahanoy City	88	....	7	....	11	1
358	Somerset	91	4	9	1	....	....
359	Philadelphia	100	2	10	....	....	2
360	Susquehanna Depot	110	2	5	....	2	....
361	Newville	59	....	2	1	....	1
362	Erie	125	4	8	1	7	....
363	Oil City	148	7	8	2	7	3
364	Millersburg	71	1	3	....	2	....
365	Corry	112	8	3	....	3	2
366	Union Mills	66	1	6	7	6	....
367	Reading	64	1	6	....	....	....
368	Philadelphia	108	3	20	1	....	....
369	Philadelphia	218	1	20	4	11	1
370	Mifflinburg	55	....	1	3	7	....
371	Thompson town	43	....	4	....	2	1
372	Spartansburg	43	....	6	1	2	....
373	Tioga	50	2	1	3	1	....
374	Manchester	108	1	9	3	2	....
375	McKeesport	82	....	4	4	2	....
376	McVeytown	52	....	2	....	....	....
377	Kutztown	86	2	5	....	1	....
378	Mount Carmel	51	....	1	3	....	....
379	Ridgeway	148	....	21	8	7	....
380	Philadelphia	100	1	9	....	....	3
381	Newport	45	....	8	1	4	2
382	Emporium	108	1	9	2	1	....
383	Coatesville	75	4	8	1	8	1
384	Philadelphia	76	1	5	2	2	....
385	Philadelphia	139	....	14	....	....	2
386	Philadelphia	258	2	16	4	....	3
387	Dushore	57	1	5	....	3	....
388	Smithport	62	....	8	1	3	....
389	West Middlesex	45	....	4	1	3	....
390	Lawrenceville	102	4	7	1	....	1

No. of Lodge.	WHERE HELD.	MEMBERS Dec. 27th, 1873.	ADMITTED.	INITIATED.	RESIGNED.	SUSPENDED OR EXPELLED.	DIED.
391	Philipsburg	71	.....	3	1	.....	.....
392	Erie	93	2	6	2	.....	.....
393	Philadelphia	232	.....	28	1	.....	3
395	Kingston.....	67	.....	3	1	1	.....
396	Easton	91	1	17	1	1	.....
397	Williamsport.....	66	2	3	1	1	.....
398	Marietta.....	55	1	8	1	.....	.....
399	North East.....	71	1	4	.....	.....	2
400	Jenkintown	72	2	6	.....	1	1
401	Watson town	86	.....	6	3	3	.....
402	Philadelphia	156	3	24	14	1	2
403	Clarksville	40	.....	1	5	.....	1
404	Northumberland.....	54	2	.....	.....	2	.....
405	Waynesburg	41	.....	4	.....	.....	.....
406	Hamburg	58	.....	5	.....	.....	1
407	Jacksonville.....	62	1	3	1	4	1
408	Meadville	47	2	2	1	.....	.....
409	Pine Grove.....	45	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
410	Hatboro'.....	64	1	9	.....	.....	.....
411	Darlington.....	49	.....	1	1	3	.....
412	Tidioute	74	.....	4	5	2	.....
413	Bath.....	76	.....	6	.....	1	.....
414	Elysburg.....	30	.....	2	.....	1	1
415	Canton.....	74	1	7	.....	.....	.....
416	Edinboro'.....	60	2	11	3	.....	.....
417	Kirkwood.....	51	10	8	2	.....	.....
418	Rome.....	46	.....	5	.....	4	.....
419	Philadelphia	231	4	27	3	6	3
420	Conshohocken.....	64	.....	10	.....	.....	1
421	Osceola.....	17	.....	.....	3	1	1
422	Newtown	23	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
423	Shrewsbury	62	.....	6	.....	.....	2
424	Jamestown.....	52	.....	2	.....	.....	.....
425	Warterford.....	72	.....	3	.....	.....	.....
426	Cressona.....	48	.....	3	.....	.....	1
427	Newtown.....	62	.....	5	.....	.....	.....
428	Smithfield.....	55	2	3	1	3	1
429	Harmony	45	1	.....	2	.....	1
430	Allegheny City.....	130	.....	17	7	4	.....
431	Saltsburg	36	.....	6	1	.....	.....
432	Philadelphia	106	4	18	16	.....	.....
433	Newcastle.....	98	4	9	1	1	2
434	Brownsville.....	31	.....	4	4	.....	.....
435	Reading.....	128	.....	10	.....	.....	2
436	Philadelphia.....	121	.....	12	4	.....	2
437	Apolla	40	1	8	.....	.....	2

No. of Lodge.	WHERE HELD.	MEMBERS Dec. 27th, 1873.	ADMITTED.	INITIATED.	RESIGNED.	SUSPENDED OF EXPELLED.	DIED.
438	Nicholson.....	46	....	2	....	4	2
439	Clifford.....	43	....	....	4	....	....
440	Slatington.....	37	....	2	....	....	....
441	Philadelphia.....	210	3	16	1	....	2
442	Wilkesbarre.....	82	2	11	....	4	....
443	Greencastle.....	38	..	2	....	....	....
444	Philadelphia.....	75	4	17	1	4	1
445	Harford.....	26	....	1	1	....	....
446	Upper Uwchlan.....	35	....	2	1	....	....
447	Claysville.....	30	....	1	2	1	....
448	Sharpsburg.....	60	3	10	....	....	....
449	Philadelphia.....	103	....	22	....	1	....
450	Philadelphia.....	137	2	20	3	....	....
451	York.....	33	2	2	....	....	....
452	Sewickley.....	47	3	3	....	....	2
453	Philadelphia.....	85	....	8	2	....	2
454	Burgettstown.....	70	4	8	2	1	1
455	Erie.....	28	1	1	....	....	2
456	Philadelphia.....	118	3	43	....	1	....
457	Beaver.....	43	1	4	2	....	1
458	Marysville.....	39	....	1	....	....	....
459	Masontown.....	26	....	3	....	....	....
460	Orangeville.....	37	....	4	....	....	....
461	Greenfield.....	33	....	2	1	....	....
462	Berwick.....	61	2	15	....	....	1
463	Titusville.....	94	4	13	3	3	....
464	Harrisburg.....	88	4	10	1	....	....
465	York Springs.....	29	....	2	....	....	....
466	Olyphant.....	46	1	4	3	....	....
467	Whitehaven.....	52	....	2	2	....	....
468	Wyoming.....	28	....	2	....	....	....
469	Coopersburg.....	27	....	2	....	1	....
470	Falls of Schuylkill.....	61	2	7	....	....	....
471	Leraysville.....	35	....	5	1	....	....
472	Pleasant Mount.....	24	1	4	....	....	....
473	Cambridge.....	65	....	17	....	....	....
474	Coalville.....	71	1	8	1	....	2
475	Kennett Square.....	62	1	17	....	....	1
476	Lancaster.....	63	1	5	....	2	1
477	Westfield.....	41	2	6	....	....	....
478	Beaver Falls.....	54	4	8	....	....	....
479	Morgantown.....	23	....	4	....	....	....
480	New Washington.....	46	....	4	2	....	....
481	Philadelphia.....	157	3	40	1	....	....
482	Philadelphia.....	105	3	36	8	....	....
483	Rouseville.....	80	....	6	3	....	....

No. of LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	MEMBERS Dec. 27th, 1873.	ADMITTED.	INITIATED.	RESIGNED.	SUSPENDED OF EXPELLED.	DIED.
484	Pittsburg	106	....	20	1	....	1
485	Smith's Ferry	30	....	2	1	....	....
486	Middletown	48	....	7	....	....	....
487	Philadelphia	76	....	17	....	....	1
488	Independence	27	....	1	....	....	....
489	Allegheny	59	....	5	....	1	....
490	Altoona	65	....	3	....	....	....
491	Philadelphia	116	2	13	....	1	1
492	Milroy	34	....	8	....	....	....
493	Philadelphia	144	9	44	1	....	1
494	Tyrone	46	3	2	....	....	....
495	Renovo	41	2	6	....	....	....
496	Safe Harbor	21	....	1	....	....	....
497	Waynesburg	31	1	6	1	....	....
498	Linesville	35	....	4	....	....	....
499	West Pittston	43	....	5	....	1	....
500	Philadelphia	124	5	27	....	....	....
501	Pleasantville	65	3	6	2	....	....
502	Tarentum	20	....	2	....	....	....
503	Wrightsville	23	....	1	....	1	....
504	Moseow	29	1	6	....	....	....
505	Port Allegheny	19	8	11	....	....	....
506	Frankford	58	2	11	....	....	....
507	New Milford	20	14	6	....	....	....
508	Pittsburg	39	3	7	....	....	....
509	Birmingham	53	2	6	....	....	1
510	Braddock's Field	39	1	10	....	....	1
511	Shenandoah	48	1	16	....	....	2
512	Quakertown	41	3	13	....	....	1
513	Temperanceville	39	1	10	....	....	....
514	Spring Hill Township	36	....	18	5	1	....
515	Osceola	29	3	7	....	....	1
516	Danville	25	....	7	1	....	....
517	Sharpsville	29	2	14	1	....	....
518	Greensburg	27	14	13	....	....	....
519	Philadelphia	42	23	19	....	....	....
520	St. Petersburg	21	17	4	....	....	....
521	Parker City	18	15	3	....	....	....
522	New Bethlehem	12	12	....	....	....	....
523	Gibsonburg	17	15	2	....	....	....
524	Everett Borough	17	16	1	....	....	....
525	Allegheny City	37	26	11	....	....	....

RECAPITULATION.

MEMBERS, Dec. 27th, 1873....	37,546	RESIGNED.....	820
ADMITTED.....	659	SUSPENDED or EXPELLED.....	736
INITIATED.....	2,665	DIED.....	412

Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

Held at Philadelphia, December 2d, A. D., 1874, A. L., 5874.

PRESENT:

Bro. ALFRED R. POTTER.	-	-	<i>R. W. Grand Master.</i>
" ROBERT CLARK,	-	-	" <i>Deputy Grand Master.</i>
" J. MADISON PORTER,	-	-	" <i>Senior Grand Warden.</i>
" MICHAEL NISBET,	-	-	" <i>Junior Grand Warden.</i>
" THOS. R. PATTON,	-	-	" <i>Grand Treasurer.</i>
" JOHN THOMSON.	-	-	" <i>Grand Secretary.</i>
" J. ALEX. SIMPSON.	-	-	" <i>Deputy Grand Secretary.</i>
" A. M. POLLOCK,	-	-	} <i>District Deputy Grand Masters.</i>
" ALEX. M. LLOYD,	-	-	
" CHRISTOPHER LITTLE,	-	-	
" WM. CHATLAND,	-	-	
" THOMAS S. MCNAIR,	-	-	
" CHRISTIAN F. KNAPP,	-	-	
" FRED. WHITTLESEY,	-	-	
" E. P. KINGSBURY,	-	-	
" B. H. HENDERSON,	-	-	
" M. M. MEREDITH,	-	-	
" CHAS. M. HOWELL,	-	-	
" GEO. S. SNYDER,	-	-	
" ROBERT H. THOMAS,	-	-	
" WM. M. McCULLOUGH,	-	-	
" ROBERT L. McCLELLAN,	-	-	
" RICHARD COULTER,	-	-	
" CHAS. W. MACKEY,	-	-	
" EDWARD HERRICK, JR.,	-	-	
" S. E. ANCONA.	-	-	
Bro. JOHN CHAMBERS,	-	-	} <i>Grand Chaplains.</i>
" R. H. ALLEN,	-	-	
" R. H. PATTISON.	-	-	

Bro. ISAAC VANDEUSEN, -	-	<i>Senior Grand Deacon.</i>
" WM. B. HACKENBURG, -	-	<i>Junior Grand Deacon.</i>
" JAMES MORRELL, JR., -	-	} <i>Grand Stewards.</i>
" GEORGE B. COLE, -	-	
" GEORGE W. WOOD, -	-	" <i>Marshal.</i>
" DANIEL BRITTAIN, -	-	" <i>Sword Bearer.</i>
" S. KINGSTON McCAY, -	-	" <i>Pursuivant.</i>
" HARRISON G. CLARK, -	-	" <i>Tyler.</i>
Bro. JAMES PAGE, -	-	} <i>Past Grand Masters.</i>
" RICHARD VAUX, -	-	
" PETER FRITZ, -	-	
Bro. RICHARD VAUX, -	-	{ <i>Representative of the Grand Lodges of New York, Illinois, South Carolina, Alabama, Texas, Min- nesota and Washington Terri- tory.</i>
" SAMUEL C. PERKINS, -	-	
" E. HARPER JEFFRIES, -	-	
" ALFRED R. POTTER, -	-	{ <i>Representative of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky.</i>
" JAMES PAGE, -	-	
" ALFRED R. POTTER, -	-	{ <i>Representative of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey.</i>
" JAMES PAGE, -	-	
" JAMES PAGE, -	-	{ <i>Representative of the Grand Lodge of Oregon.</i>
" JAMES PAGE, -	-	

One Hundred and sixty-eight Lodges represented.

This being the time designated by the Ahiman Rezon for the election of Officers to serve the Grand Lodge for the ensuing Masonic year, the Right Worshipful Grand Master appointed tellers, who, after receiving and counting the votes, announced the following-named brethren as elected:

Bro. ALFRED R. POTTER, -	-	<i>R. W. Grand Master.</i>
" ROBERT CLARK, -	-	" <i>Deputy Grand Master.</i>
" J. MADISON PORTER, -	-	" <i>Senior Grand Warden.</i>
" MICHAEL NISBET, -	-	" <i>Junior Grand Warden.</i>

Bro. THOMAS R. PATTON, -	-	R. W. <i>Grand Treasurer.</i>
" JOHN THOMSON, -	-	" <i>Grand Secretary.</i>
" JOSEPH S. RILEY, -	-	} <i>Trustees of the Grand Lodge</i> <i>Charity Fund.</i>
" J. LAUDENSLAGER, -	-	
" GEORGE GRISCOM, -	-	
" DANIEL BRITTAIN, -	-	
" JOHN HANOLD, -	-	
Bro. SAMUEL C. PERKINS, -	-	} <i>Trustees of the Girard Bequest.</i>
" CHAS. M. PREVOST, -	-	
" GEORGE THOMSON, .	-	
" HENRY C. HOWELL, -	-	
" JACOB ROBERTS, -	-	

The different committees being called upon, made reports as follows :

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

The Finance Committee respectfully report :

The accounts of the Grand Treasurer show :

—RECEIPTS—

Balance November 15th, 1873,	\$ 3,935 82
Received for Dues, Masonic Rents, &c., . . .	132,234 17
" " Dispensations, Certificates, and Ahiman Rezons,	11,856 79
" " New Warrants,	600 00
" " Store Rents,	11,138 25
" " Aprons,	344 20
" " Sale of Tickets of Admission to Temple,	3,247 50
" " Interest from Grand Treasurer on Deposits,	868 06
" " Sale of Engine, Lumber, &c., Chestnut Street Hall, . . .	277 00
" " Grand Chapter for Stationery, &c., . . .	148 00
Total Receipts,	<u>\$164,649 79</u>

PAYMENTS.

Paid for Interest on Masonic Loans,	\$100,620	97
“ “ Sinking Fund, - - -	19,000	00
“ “ Order Building Fund as per Resolution G. L. March 3, 1873, - - -	5,000	00
“ “ Order Building Fund as per Resolution G. L. Sept. 4, 1873, - - -	425	00
“ “ Expenses Grand Master, -	1,000	00
“ “ “ District Deputy Grand Masters, - -	2,534	06
“ “ Salaries Grand Officers and Clerks as follows:		
Thomas Brown, Grand Treas- urer for 1873, - -	200	00
John Thomson, G. Secretary from Sept. 30, 1873, to Sept. 30, 1874, - -	2,000	00
Francis Blackburne, from Sept. 30, 1873, to Sept. 30, 1874, - - -	1,200	00
Jos. H. Boswell, from Sept. 30, 1873 to Sept. 30, 1874,	1,000	00
Charles H. Kingston, from Sept. 30, 1873, to Sept. 30, 1874, - - -	1,000	00
Charles Schnider, from June 50, 1873, to Dec. 31, 1873,	93	00
Harrison G. Clark, Grand Tyler, from Dec. 31, 1873, to Sept. 30, 1874, - -	142	50
Paid for Expenses Grand Secretary's Office, - - -	241	52
“ “ Taxes Chestnut Street Hall,	4,164	40
“ “ Orders for Hall Committee for 1873, Chestnut Street Hall, - - -	130	72

Paid for Labor Chestnut Street Hall,	60 00
“ “ Expenses Grand Lodge for Printing, &c., - - -	816 78
“ “ Orders Library Committee,	500 00
“ “ Order for Louisiana Suf- ferers, - - - -	1,000 00
“ “ Order for Committee Louis- iana Sufferers, - - -	30 00
“ “ Masonic Ray for Banquet- ting Room, - - - -	100 00
“ “ Orders Temple Committee,	14,615 92
“ “ Order for New Window, -	1,200 00
“ “ Carriages for Funeral of P. G. Master Samuel H. Perkins and draping G. Lodge Room, - - - -	168 50
Total Payments, - - - -	<u>157,243 37</u>
Leaving balance in hands of Grand Treasurer,	\$ 7,406 42

The accounts of the Grand Secretary for sale of Dispensa-
tions, Certificates and Ahiman Rezons, show :

Balance on hand, November 25th, 1873, -	\$1,020 00
Received from that time :	
For Dispensations, - - -	\$4,810 00
“ Certificates, - - - -	186 00
“ Ahiman Rezons, - - -	80 20
	<u>\$5,076 20</u>
	\$6,096 20

He has paid the Grand Treasurer :

For Dispensations, - - -	\$5,020 00
“ Certificates, - - - -	184 00
“ Ahiman Rezons, - - -	78 20
	<u>\$5,282 20</u>

Leaving in hands of the Grand Secretary,

November 15th, 1874, balance, - -	<u><u>\$ 814 00</u></u>
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The accounts of the Grand Secretary for interest on New Masonic Temple Loan, show :

The balance of interest uncalled for on March 1st,		
1874, as shown by our report to Grand Lodge		
March 4th, 1874, was -	- - - -	\$ 746 36
Amount falling due March 1st, 1874,	- - - -	53,347 11
" " " September 1st, 1874,	- - - -	53,674 16
		<hr/>
		\$107,767 63
Paid during the year,	- - - -	100,919 29
		<hr/>
Leaving the amount uncalled for,	- - - -	\$ 6,848 34

From these various accounts and the data received from the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, the Committee present the following estimated Receipts and Expenditures for the year 1875 :

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand,	- - - -	\$ 7,406 42
Dues, Initiations, Ten Per Cents, &c.,	- - - -	75,000 00
Dispensations and Warrants,	- - - -	15,000 00
Masonic Rents,	- - - -	53,000 00
Rents of Stores,	- - - -	9,600 00
Due the Grand Lodge, Nov. 15th, 1874, for		
Dues, Rents and Fees,	- - - -	18,354 94
		<hr/>
		\$178,361 36

PAYMENTS.

Balance due on account of Appropria-	
tion to Sinking Fund, 1874,	\$11,000 00
" due on account of interest to	
Sinking Fund Sept. 1, 1874,	3,812 00
" due on Appropriation to Tem-	
ple Committee for 1874,	3,503 08
Cash due Grand Secretary for advance	
to pay interest on Masonic	
Loan,	2,000 00

Balance due for Salaries Grand Officers

for 1874, - - - -	1,337 50	
	<u> </u>	\$21,652 58

Interest on Masonic Loans for 1875, \$107,767 63

Sinking Fund, - - - -	15,000 00
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Expenses Grand Master, - -	1,000 00
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“ D.D. Grand Masters, “	2,000 00
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Salary Grand Treasurer, -	\$ 200 00
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“ “ Secretary,	2,000 00
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Clerk to “ “	1,200 00
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“ “	1,000 00
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Finance Committee,	400 00
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Grand Master,	600 00
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Grand Tyler, - - - -	150 00
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Postage, stamps, stationery, &c.	450 00
	<u> </u>
	\$6,000 00

Expenses Grand Lodge, - - -	1,000 00
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Printing, including annual proceedings,	1,000 00
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Library Committee, - - - -	600 00
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Taxes, Water Rent, &c., Chestnut St.

Hall, - - - - -	5,000 00
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	<u> </u>	\$139,367 63
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Temple Committee :

Superintendent, - - - -	1,500 00
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Night Watchman, - - - -	624 00
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Engineer, &c., - - - -	1,300 00
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Day Fireman, - - - -	637 00
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Night “ - - - -	728 00
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Laborers, - - - -	2,730 00
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Gas, - - - -	5,000 00
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Fuel, - - - -	2,000 00
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Water Rent, - - - -	200 00
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Ice, - - - -	200 00
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Contingent Expenses, - - -	2,000 00
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	<u> </u>	\$16,919 00
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		177,939 21
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Leaving a balance of, - - - -	\$ 422 15
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Resolved, That the Right Worshipful Grand Master be and is hereby authorized to draw his warrants on the Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer for such amounts as may be required to pay the interest on the Masonic Temple Loans, falling due on the first days of March and September, 1875.

Resolved, That the following appropriations be made, to wit:

For interest on Masonic Loans, - - -	\$107,767 63
“ Temple Committee, - - - - -	16,919 00
“ Sinking Fund, - - - - -	15,000 00
“ Grand Master, - - - - -	1,000 00
“ District Deputy Grand Masters, - -	2,000 00
“ Grand Lodge Officers and their Officers,	6,000 00
“ Grand Lodge, - - - - -	1,000 00
“ Printing, including proceedings of Grand Lodge, - - - - -	1,000 00
“ Library Committee, - - - - -	600 00
“ Taxes and Water Rent on Chestnut St. Hall, - - - - -	5,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$156,286 63

All of which is respectfully submitted,

JOHN C. YEAGER,
JAMES HERDMAN,
CONRAD B. DAY,
E. HARPER JEFFRIES,
WM. H. EAGLE.

Committee.

PHILADELPHIA, December 21st, 1874.

BALANCE SHEET GRAND LODGE OF PENNSYLVANIA,
November 14th, 1874.

DUE from Lodges.....	\$ 18,354 94	Balances due to Lodges, \$	29 50
Paid Building Committee,	26,902 04	Rec'd for Old Material..	552 19
“ Expenses G. Master,	1,000 00	“ Tickets for Tem-	
“ D. D. Grand “	2,534 06	ple.....	3,247 50
“ Grand Lodge.....	1,099 28	Dues from City Lodges..	24,068 00
“ Grand Officers and		“ “ Lodges else-	
Salaries.....	5,877 02	where.....	25,286 09
“ Hall Committee Chest-		Initiations in the City....	10,294 00
nut Street.....	130 72	“ elsewhere	13,072 00
“ Temple Committee..	19,781 32	Rec'd City 10 per cent..	8,134 50
“ Library Committee..	500 00	“ Apron account....	344 20
Sent to Louisiana Sufferers	1,000 00	“ Masonic Rents...	64,161 83
Expenses of Dedication...	100 00	“ Store Rent.....	11,138 25
Paid for Interest.....	95,513 01	“ Dispensation, &c.	11,856 79
Sinking Fund.....	119,037 32	“ Warrants	600 00
G. Lodge Charity Fund...	6,284 00	Masonic Loans.....	1,470,525 00
Girard “ ...	57,616 34	Grand Lodge of Penn'a.	668,612 58
Real Estate.....	1,892,224 91	Profit and Loss account..	2 95
Cash on hand.....	7,406 42		
	<u>\$2,311,925 38</u>		<u>\$2,311,925 38</u>

BALANCES GRAND LODGE OF PENNSYLVANIA, NOV. 16TH, 1874,
AFTER THE CLOSING ENTRIES FOR FISCAL YEAR 1875 ARE MADE.

Due from Lodges.....	\$18,354 94	Due Lodges.....	\$ 29 50
Real Estate.....	191,126 95	Masonic Loans.....	1,470,525 00
Girard Trust.....	57,616 34	Grand Lodge.....	713,835 47
G. L. Charity Fund.....	62,848 00		
Sinking Fund.....	119,037 32		
Cash on hand.....	7,406 42		
	<u>\$2,184,389 97</u>		<u>\$2,184,389 97</u>

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF SINKING FUND.

To the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania:

The Commissioners of the Sinking Fund respectfully present their First Annual Report.

The Trustees of the Building Fund who had the care and administration of the Sinking Fund also, in the final report presented to Grand Lodge, at the Quarterly Communication held December 3d, 1873, showed in their hands to the credit of the Fund:

New Masonic Temple Loan,	-	-	\$95,250 00
Cash balancee,	-	-	27 99
			<hr/>
Making a total of,	-	-	\$95,277 99
			<hr/>

There have been received since the date of that report:

Balances from the Building Fund—

From the Grand Secretary,	-	\$175 32	
“ “ Sup’t, Bro. Allen Bard,	41	92	
“ “ Building Committee,	302	19	
			<hr/>
			\$ 519 43

From the Grand Treasurer, Ap-			
propriation by Grand Lodge			
for 1873, in full,	-	\$15,000 00	
Appropriation 1874 on acc’t,	4,000	00	
			<hr/>
			\$19,000 00

Interest:

On New Masonic Temple Loan,	\$7,289 70	
“ \$15,000 Pittsburg 7 per cent.	525 00	
“ Deposits, &c.,	401 96	8,216 66
		<hr/>
Making a total of,	-	\$27,736 09
To which add cash balancees as above at date of		
Report of Trustees of Building Fund,	-	27 99

Makes the amount of cash to be accounted for \$27,764 08 which has been expended as follows :

For Certificates of New Masonic Tem-

ple Loan at par, - -	\$10,350 00	
“ accrued interest on same, -	98 20	
“ Pittsburg 7 per cent. at par,	15,000 00	
“ accrued interest on same, -	128 75	25,576 95

Leaving a cash balance at this date of, - - \$2,187 13 which is on deposit to the credit of the Commissioners with the Fidelity Insurance, Trust and Safe Deposit Company, at 3 per cent. interest.

And there is a balance of the appropriation from Grand Lodge for 1874 yet to be paid, of - - \$11,000 00

The Fund in the hands of the Commissioners is now as follows :

Certificates of New Masonic Temple Loan, -	105,600 00
Pittsburg 7 per cent. Loan, - - -	15,000 00
Cash on hand, - - - - -	2,187 13
Making a total of, - - - - -	\$122,787 13

If to this be added the balance of the appropriation from Grand Lodge for 1874, yet to be paid, - - - - - 11,000 00

It makes an aggregate of, - - - - - \$133,787 13

The cash balance as above, together with the moneys to be received from time to time on account of the Fund, will be applied by the Commissioners in the purchase of New Masonic Temple Loan or other securities as opportunity may present, or circumstances may render desirable.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Commissioners,

SAMUEL C. PERKINS,
Chairman pro temp.

December 2d, 1874.

REPORT OF THE TEMPLE COMMITTEE.

To the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania:

SIRS AND BRETHREN: The Temple Committee respectfully report, for three months, ending November 15th, they have expended the following sums:

For Salaries of Superintendent, Engineer, Fire-	
man, Night-watchman, Day-fireman and	
Night-fireman, - - - - -	\$1,143 44
For Laborers, - - - - -	769 34
" Gas, - - - - -	752 33
" Fuel, - - - - -	800 25
" Ice, - - - - -	112 60
" Contingent Expenses, - - - - -	1,247 95
" Central Window, - - - - -	1,200 00
" Repairs to Grand Treasurer's Room, -	286 50
	<hr/>
	\$6,312 41

The amounts appropriated to your Committee for the year, and their disbursements therefrom, have been as follows:

	<i>Appropriations.</i>	<i>Expenditures.</i>
Salaries of Superintendent, Engineer,		
Night-Watchman, Night-Fireman		
and Day-Fireman, - - - - -	\$4,789 00	\$3,991 38
Laborers, - - - - -	2,730 00	2,531 38
Gas, - - - - -	7,000 00	3,523 37
Fuel - - - - -	1,800 00	1,893 39
Ice, - - - - -	300 00	157 22
Contingent - - - - -	1,200 00	2,232 68
Stained Glass Window - - - - -	1,200 00	1,200 00
Repairs to Grand Treasurer's Room,	300 00	286 50
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$19,319 00	\$15,815 62

Of the item of Contingent Expenses, about \$1,200 were expended in repairs to roof, with one or two bills of about \$600 to \$700 still due.

All of which is Fraternally submitted,

WILLIAM J. KELLY,
SAMUEL W. WRAY,
HIBBERT P. JOHN,
HENRY K. SMITH,
GODFREY KEEBLER,
Committee.

REPORT OF THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

TO THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER,
* AND MEMBERS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF PENN'A.

THE Library Committee would respectfully report the increasing number of those who avail themselves of the privileges of the Library, and that they feel greatly encouraged in their labors.

The number of volumes have been increased by liberal donations made by the Grand and Subordinate Lodges, and individual members.

Your Committee have labored earnestly in the preparation of the Dedication Memorial, authorized by the Grand Lodge at the last December Communication. In order that each member might have an opportunity to purchase the work, over 40,000 circulars have been printed and sent to the Secretaries of every Lodge in the jurisdiction, with a request that they be forwarded to the members.

The work has been delayed beyond the period fixed for its publication, in order that the important correspondence connected with the dedication could be collected and prepared for publication, and for other unavoidable reasons.

The Memorial is now being stereotyped, and after the subscribers' copies are delivered, additional copies may be had on application to the Committee, and at the Library.

We would take this opportunity to say, that the work has been prepared by the Library Committee, at their own risk, for the sole benefit of the Library of the Grand Lodge.

When completed it will be the finest Masonic work ever issued in this country, and typographically will rank among the most noted works issued from the press. It is fully expected, the work will be delivered before, or by, St. John's Day next.

We have received applications from sister Grand Lodges asking if they were to receive complimentary copies, which have been answered: that as the work was one issued by subscription only, that no gratuitous copies could be furnished.

The reprint of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge, also authorized, is under consideration and preparation.

Fraternally submitted,

CHARLES E. MEYER,
JOHN RICHARDS MUCKLE,
ROBERT H. PATTISON,
CHARLES K. IDE,
W. H. BURKHARDT,
JOHN L. YOUNG,
P. GARRETT.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE GRAND LODGE
CHARITY FUND.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 17th, 1874.

*To the Right Worshipful, the Grand Lodge of Masons of the
State of Pennsylvania: _*

BRETHREN: The Trustees of the Grand Lodge Charity Fund respectfully submit the following statement, showing the receipts and expenditures of the Trust for the fiscal year, ending November 17th, 1874, and the present condition of the Trust.

JACOB LAUDENSLAGER,
President.

REPORT.

1873.

Nov. 11,	To balance on deposit with		
	Fidelity Ins. and Safe De-		
	posit Company,	- - -	\$1,443 00

1874.

Nov. 19,	To Interest on Deposits,	-	28 47	
Mar. 3,	" " Masonic Loan		2,241 10	
July 8,	" " City Loan,	-	48 00	
Sept. 3,	" " Masonic Loan		2,241 10	
Nov. 11,	" " Deposits,	-	45 13	
			<hr/>	\$6,046 80

1874.

Jan'y 17,	By Order No. 1, in favor of			
	Almoners,	- - -	\$1,000 00	
April 7,	" " No. 2, Do.		500 00	
" 8,	" Cash paid for \$1,600			
	City 6 per cent. Loan		1,648 00	
July 8,	" Order No. 3, in favor of			
	Almoners,	- - -	500 00	
Oct. 10,	" Order No. 4, in favor of			
	Almoners,	- - -	1,000 00	
Nov. 17,	" Balance on Deposit in			
	Bank,	- - -	1,398 80	
			<hr/>	\$6,046 80

The following comprise the invested capital of the Trust and balance on deposit:

7 $\frac{3}{10}$	Masonic Loan,	- - -	\$61,400 00
6	per cent. Phila. City Loan,		1,600 00
	Balance on Deposit,	- - -	1,398 80
			<hr/>
			\$64,398 80

*To the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania,
and Masonic Jurisdiction thereunto belonging:*

The Committee appointed at the Quarterly Communication June 3d, 1874, to solicit contributions for the relief of our Brethren of Louisiana and their families who were sufferers from the recent extraordinary floods and overflows, respectfully report:

That an organization was had immediately after their appointment and circulars adopted, which were sent to all the Lodges, and other Masonic bodies within the jurisdiction, as well as to each of the District Deputy Grand Masters. The response was prompt and generous, showing a total of six thousand seven hundred and thirty-four dollars and seventy-five cents, (\$6,734 75) which was remitted to the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary of Louisiana, Brother JAMES C. BATCHELOR, M. D., for distribution by Louisiana Relief Lodge No. 1, as follows:—

June 18th,	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$	425	00
July 2d,	-	-	-	-	-	-		1,268	00
“ 6th,	-	-	-	-	-	-		1,425	50
“ 13th,	-	-	-	-	-	-		844	50
“ 22d,	-	-	-	-	-	-		1,045	50
August,	-	-	-	-	-	-		1,183	00
November 27th,	-	-	-	-	-	-		543	25
								<hr/>	
								\$6,734	75

which with amount donated by Grand Lodge, 1,000 00
and donation remitted direct by Montgomery

Lodge No. 19,	-	-	-	-	-	-		50	00
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Makes a total of,	-	-	-	-	-	-		\$7,784	75
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contributed by the Masons of Pennsylvania to the relief of the suffering brethren of Louisiana and their families.

Early in September a Circular Letter was received from the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Louisiana announcing

that further assistance was not needed. The Committee immediately issued a circular announcing the fact to the Craft of the Jurisdiction, a copy of which is hereto annexed. It was thought best, however, to send forward the amounts then in their hands and what might be received, before the circular should have had time to reach the Lodges and brethren.

The expenses of the Committee for printing and postage amounted to \$—— which was defrayed by the Grand Lodge, so that the entire amount contributed has been remitted for the actual purposes of the charity.

The expressions of gratitude from our Brethren of Louisiana have been of the warmest character. The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of that Jurisdiction have had no meeting since, and will not meet till their Annual Communication in February next. But the brethren of this jurisdiction may rest assured that their practical expressions of fraternal sympathy with the distresses of our Brethren of Louisiana have not failed of appreciation.

The Committee having concluded their labors respectfully ask to be discharged.

On behalf of the Committee,

SAMUEL C. PERKINS,
Chairman.

DECEMBER 2d, 1874.

Contributions to the Louisiana Relief Fund by the Masons of
Pennsylvania.

NAME AND NUMBER OF LODGE.							AMOUNT.
	Lodge No.	9,	-	-	-	-	\$ 50 00
Perseverance	"	" 21,	-	-	-	-	10 00
Bristol	"	" 25,	-	-	-	-	10 00
Brother of,	"	" 25,	-	-	-	-	3 00
	"	" 45,	-	-	-	-	50 00
	"	" 51,	-	-	-	-	100 00
	"	" 61,	-	-	-	-	50 00
	"	" 62,	-	-	-	-	100 00
Philadelphia	"	" 72,	-	-	-	-	100 00
Phoenix	"	" 75,	-	-	-	-	25 00
Hiram	"	" 81,	-	-	-	-	25 00
Columbia	"	" 91,	-	-	-	-	100 00
Solomon's	"	" 114,	-	-	-	-	50 00
Union	"	" 121,	-	-	-	-	100 00
Rising Star	"	" 126,	-	-	-	-	25 00
Brethren of	"	" 126,	-	-	-	-	17 00
Phoenix	"	" 130,	-	-	-	-	50 00
Roxborough	"	" 135,	-	-	-	-	25 00
Schuylkill	"	" 138,	-	-	-	-	20 00
Easton	"	" 152,	-	-	-	-	50 00
Meridian Sun	"	" 158,	-	-	-	-	100 00
Brethren of	"	" 158,	-	-	-	-	38 50
Evergreen	"	" 163,	-	-	-	-	10 00
Eastern Star	"	" 186,	-	-	-	-	25 00
Integrity	"	" 187,	-	-	-	-	50 00
Charity	"	" 190,	-	-	-	-	50 00
Lafayette	"	" 194,	-	-	-	-	20 00
Pulaski	"	" 216,	-	-	-	-	50 00
St. John's	"	" 219,	-	-	-	-	100 00
Minersville	"	" 222,	-	-	-	-	10 00
Mount Lebanon	"	" 226,	-	-	-	-	20 00
Chandler	"	" 227,	-	-	-	-	100 00
Rochester	"	" 229,	-	-	-	-	25 00
Richmond	"	" 230,	-	-	-	-	25 00
Solomon's	"	" 231,	-	-	-	-	50 00
St. John's	"	" 233,	-	-	-	-	10 00
Armstrong	"	" 239,	-	-	-	-	25 00
Warren	"	" 240,	-	-	-	-	25 00
Carbon	"	" 242,	-	-	-	-	50 00
Mahoning	"	" 243,	-	-	-	-	10 00

NAME AND NUMBER OF LODGE.				AMOUNT.
Kittanning, (Brother)	Lodge No.	244,	- - -	10 00
Doylestown	" "	245,	- - -	50 00
Shekinah	" "	246,	- - -	50 00
Temple	" "	248,	- - -	40 00
Gummert	" "	252,	- - -	25 00
Shamokin	" "	255,	- - -	10 00
Hiram	" "	261,	- - -	25 00
Orrstown	" "	262,	- - -	10 00
York	" "	266,	- - -	20 00
Swatara	" "	267,	- - -	75 00
Monongahela	" "	269,	- - -	50 00
Page	" "	270,	- - -	20 00
Cassia	" "	273,	- - -	10 00
Hamilton	" "	274,	- - -	25 00
Clarion	" "	277,	- - -	100 00
Cambria	" "	278,	- - -	25 00
Mountain	" "	281,	- - -	100 00
Juniata	" "	282,	- - -	20 00
Anthracite	" "	285,	- - -	25 00
Columbia	" "	286,	- - -	25 00
Milnor	" "	287,	- - -	50 00
Jefferson	" "	288,	- - -	25 00
Frankford	" "	292,	- - -	50 00
Melita	" "	295,	- - -	100 00
Mount Moriah	" "	300,	- - -	10 00
Waverly	" "	301,	- - -	10 00
Eureka	" "	302,	- - -	10 00
Oil Creek	" "	303,	- - -	50 00
Western Star	" "	304,	- - -	5 00
Hawley	" "	305,	- - -	10 00
Williamson	" "	307,	- - -	20 00
Fort Washington	" "	308,	- - -	25 00
Summit	" "	312,	- - -	10 00
Clearfield	" "	314,	- - -	20 00
Ossea	" "	317,	- - -	5 00
McKinley	" "	318,	- - -	50 00
Adams	" "	319,	- - -	15 00
Westchester	" "	322,	- - -	25 00
Peter Williamson	" "	323,	- - -	25 00
Union	" "	324,	- - -	5 00
Hazle	" "	327,	- - -	50 00
Salem	" "	330,	- - -	10 00
Plymouth (Brethren)	" "	332,	- - -	12 00
Barger	" "	333,	- - -	25 00
Henry M. Phillips	" "	339,	- - -	20 75

NAME AND NUMBER OF LODGE.				AMOUNT.
Thomson	Lodge	No. 340,	- - -	20 00
Eulalia	"	" 342,	- - -	50 00
Skerret	"	" 343,	- - -	30 00
Sehiller	"	" 345,	- - -	10 00
King Solomon	"	" 346,	- - -	25 00
Lake Erie	"	" 347,	- - -	25 00
Brother	"	" 347,	- - -	2 00
Patnos	"	" 348,	- - -	10 00
Catawissa	"	" 349,	- - -	5 00
Brethren	"	" 349,	- - -	2 50
Acaeia	"	" 355,	- - -	10 00
Mahonay City	"	" 357,	- - -	20 00
Humboldt	"	" 359,	- - -	25 00
Petrolia	"	" 363,	- - -	70 00
Susquehanna	"	" 364,	- - -	10 00
Corry	"	" 365,	- - -	25 00
Teutonia	"	" 367,	- - -	25 00
Corinthian	"	" 368,	- - -	25 00
Williamson	"	" 369,	- - -	25 00
Lamberton	"	" 371,	- - -	10 00
Huguenot	"	" 377,	- - -	13 50
Mount Carmel	"	" 378,	- - -	10 00
Pennsylvania	"	" 380,	- - -	25 00
Emporium	"	" 382,	- - -	25 00
Goddard	"	" 383,	- - -	10 00
Richard Vaux	"	" 384,	- - -	25 00
Oriental	"	" 385,	- - -	10 00
Moshannon	"	" 391,	- - -	25 00
Vaux	"	" 393,	- - -	50 00
Kingston	"	" 395,	- - -	100 00
Dallas	"	" 396,	- - -	25 00
Ivy	"	" 397,	- - -	20 00
North East	"	" 399,	- - -	25 00
Friendship	"	" 400,	- - -	55 00
Watson town	"	" 401,	- - -	10 00
Clarksville	"	" 403,	- - -	5 00
Vaux	"	" 406,	- - -	15 00
Meridian	"	" 415,	- - -	15 00
Temple	"	" 412,	- - -	30 00
Canton	"	" 415,	- - -	10 00
Casis	"	" 416,	- - -	10 00
Christianna	"	" 417,	- - -	20 00
Fritz	"	" 420,	- - -	25 00
Shrewsbury	"	" 423,	- - -	10 00
Adelphic	"	" 424,	- - -	5 00

NAME AND NUMBER OF LODGE.				AMOUNT.
Waterford	Lodge No.	425,	- - -	20 00
Cressona	"	426,	- - -	20 00
Herman	"	429,	- - -	10 00
Williamson	"	331,	- - -	10 00
Lodge of the Craft	"	433,	- - -	18 00
Lake	"	434,	- - -	10 00
St. John's	"	435,	- - -	25 00
Apollo	"	437,	- - -	10 00
Slatington	"	440,	- - -	10 00
Potter	"	441,	- - -	100 00
Land Mark	"	442,	- - -	50 00
Mount Pisgah	"	443,	- - -	25 00
Mount Pickering	"	446,	- - -	5 00
Zeredatha	"	448,	- - -	25 00
Ivanhoe	"	449,	- - -	25 00
Welcome	"	453,	- - -	21 00
Richard Vaux	"	454,	- - -	10 00
5 Brethren	"	454,	- - -	5 00
St. James	"	457,	- - -	45 00
Monongahela Valley	"	461,	- - -	10 00
Brethren	"	461,	- - -	2 00
Knapp	"	562,	- - -	12 50
Robert Burns	"	464,	- - -	25 00
Laurel	"	467,	- - -	10 00
Covenant	"	473,	- - -	5 00
Brethren	"	473,	- - -	3 00
Coalville	"	474,	- - -	10 00
Kennett	"	475,	- - -	5 00
Brethren	"	475,	- - -	8 00
St. Paul	"	481,	- - -	50 00
Knapp	"	483,	- - -	25 00
Pittsburg	"	484,	- - -	50 00
Robert A. Lamberton	"	487,	- - -	36 00
	"	489,	- - -	25 00
Marion	"	497,	- - -	5 00
Lake	"	498,	- - -	9 00
Valley	"	499,	- - -	10 00
Brethren	"	499,	- - -	13 50
Wm. C. Hamilton	"	500,	- - -	25 00
Jerusalem	"	506,	- - -	20 00
Dallas	"	508,	- - -	50 00
Shenandoah	"	511,	- - -	25 00
Quakertown	"	512,	- - -	20 00
Osceola	"	515,	- - -	10 00
Mahoning	"	516,	- - -	10 00
Gothic	"	519,	- - -	25 00

NAME AND NUMBER OF LODGE, ETC.						AMOUNT.
Canby	Lodge	No. 520,	-	-	-	20 00
Ionie	"	" 525,	-	-	-	25 00
Philates	"	" 527,	-	-	-	50 00
Mount Horeb	"	" 528,	-	-	-	100 00
St. Albans	"	" 529,	-	-	-	50 00
MARK LODGES.						
Girard Mark Lodge	No. 214,	-	-	-	-	100 00
Exeelsior Mark Lodge	No. 216,	-	-	-	-	20 00
CHAPTERS.						
Jerusalem Chapter	No. 3,	-	-	-	-	50 00
"	" 43,	-	-	-	-	25 00
Columbia	" 91,	-	-	-	-	100 00
Reading	No. 152,	-	-	-	-	50 00
Zerubbabel	" 162,	-	-	-	-	100 00
Mount Moriah Chapter	No. 166,	-	-	-	-	5 00
Philadelphia	" 169,	-	-	-	-	50 00
Easton	" 173,	-	-	-	-	25 00
Tamaqua	" 177,	-	-	-	-	10 00
Lilly	" 181,	-	-	-	-	20 00
Oriental	" 183,	-	-	-	-	50 00
Norristown	" 190,	-	-	-	-	25 00
Duquesne	" 193,	-	-	-	-	100 00
Tioga	" 194,	-	-	-	-	5 00
Portage	" 195,	-	-	-	-	15 00
Mountain City	" 196,	-	-	-	-	25 00
Columbus	" 200,	-	-	-	-	15 00
Aaron	" 207,	-	-	-	-	25 00
Mound	" 212,	-	-	-	-	25 00
Valley	" 214,	-	-	-	-	15 00
Griseom	" 219,	-	-	-	-	10 00
Tremont	" 221,	-	-	-	-	25 00
Corinthian	" 224,	-	-	-	-	15 00
Siloam	" 226,	-	-	-	-	25 00
Exeelsior	" 237,	-	-	-	-	5 00
Palestine (Members) Lodge	No. 240,	-	-	-	-	26 50
COMMANDERIES.						
Mountain Commandery,	No. 10,	-	-	-	-	25 00
Couer de Lion	" 17,	-	-	-	-	25 00
Hugh de Payens	" 19,	-	-	-	-	25 00
Hutchinson	" 32,	-	-	-	-	25 00
Allegheny	" 35,	-	-	-	-	100 00
St. Albans, (Members)	" 47,	-	-	-	-	31 00

NAME AND NUMBER OF COUNCILS, ETC.	AMOUNT.
COUNCILS.	
Philadelphia Council No. 11, - - - - -	50 00
Alegheny " " 38, - - - - -	25 00
MISCELLANEOUS.	
Individual Subscription from Norristown Brethren -	25 00
" " " Meadville " -	100 00
Greensburg Masonic Societies - - - - -	50 00
	<hr/> \$6,734 75 <hr/>

OFFICE OF THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL THE GRAND MASTER
OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF PENNSYLVANIA, &C.

MASONIC TEMPLE, *Philadelphia*, June 5, 1874, A. L. 5874.

TO W. M., OFFICERS AND BRETHREN OF LODGE NO. —

You will receive herewith a communication from Special Committee of the R. W. Grand Lodge, appointed by the Grand Master, appealing to the Subordinate Lodges and individual brethren throughout this jurisdiction, for aid for those of the fraternity of Louisiana, and their families, who have been overtaken by calamity from the recent overflows. This communication is to be read in open Lodge, and the Grand Master cannot too strongly urge upon the brethren and Lodges to respond with alacrity and liberality to the call of this most worthy object of their charity, which is heartily commended to their sympathies.

ALFRED R. POTTER,
Grand Master.

GRAND LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF PENNSYLVANIA,
AND MASONIC JURISDICTION THEREUNTO BELONGING.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

MASONIC TEMPLE, *Phila.*, June 3, A. D. 1874, A. L. 5874.

A communication from Brother HENRY HAMBURGER, acting Most Worshipful of Louisiana Relief Lodge, No. 1, accompanied with a letter of authority from Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons of Louisiana, was received and read, asking for aid for the relief of the suffering and distress among the fraternity of that jurisdiction,

consequent upon the inundation from the Mississippi and its tributary streams.

Whereupon, on motion of Brother P.G.M. SAMUEL C. PERKINS, Representative of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Louisiana, near this Grand Lodge, it was unanimously

Resolved, That the sum of \$1,000 from the funds of the Grand Lodge be appropriated for the relief of our brethren of Louisiana, and their families, who are sufferers from the recent extraordinary floods and overflows.

Resolved, That a Special Committee of seven be appointed to solicit contributions from Subordinate Lodges, and individual brethren, in aid of the same object.

Extract from the minutes.

JOHN THOMSON,
Grand Secretary.

The Right Worshipful Grand Master was pleased to appoint the following named brethren as the Committee, under the above Resolution :

Past Grand Master Bro. SAMUEL C. PERKINS, of Lodge No. 91.
Brother HORACE FRITZ, of Lodge No. 67.

“ HENRY J. WHITE, of Lodge No. 72.

“ HENDRICK B. WRIGHT, of Lodge No. 61.

“ SAMUEL B. DICK, of Lodge No. 408.

“ CHARLES H. KINGSTON, of Lodge No. 114.

“ JOHN L. THOMPSON, of Lodge No. 51.

W. M., OFFICERS AND BROTHERS OF LODGE NO. —

We fraternally ask your attention to the foregoing Resolutions adopted by a unanimous vote of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge, at the regular Quarterly Communication, June 3d; and in the name of that charity which is claimed as the chief virtue of the craft, we ask a prompt and liberal response to the appeal for aid to our distressed brethren and their families in the jurisdiction of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Louisiana.

The calamity which has befallen them is no ordinary one; the distress occasioned by it is wide-spread, and its effects will continue to be felt for months to come. A waste of waters has swept over the fairest portions of our sister jurisdiction, carrying desolation and ruin in its overflow. The following extracts from a communication addressed to the Worshipful Master of Louisiana Relief Lodge, No. 1, will indicate the extent and nature of the disaster.

“ We are destitute of food, clothing and medicines, without credit and almost without friends. What is the duty of every Mason in this terrible calamity. They

have Brothers whose little children will soon be crying from hunger, and approaching their fathers with tears in their eyes, who will be unable to render them any assistance. We want meat and bread, and clothes and medicines—Quinine more particularly. We want no luxuries. There are Masons I know, who do not know where they will get something to eat for themselves and their families from day to day, and will starve before they will ask for it.

“Nine-tenths of our parish is under water now, and from the widening of the crevasse, the little land now uncovered will grow less daily, therefore the suffering will increase.

“We cannot tell how long this state of affairs will last—such floods as we have now do not generally pass off quickly; the longer the worse. But we hope and pray that the water will fall in time to plant crops.”

The moneys contributed will be forwarded to the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and will be appropriated under the direction of Louisiana Relief Lodge, No. 1, New Orleans, a body of long established standing under the immediate control of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and the ministering hand of her charities.

The Right Worshipful Grand Lodge has been prompt and liberal in her response; and now on behalf of her afflicted sister jurisdiction, appeals through the undersigned, with an earnest commendation of the object, to the Subordinate Lodges and individual brethren throughout her own jurisdiction.

The Masonic heart of Pennsylvania has ever beat in truest and promptest sympathy for suffering, and we feel sure that this appeal is not in vain.

It is earnestly hoped that individual brethren will avail themselves of the opportunity of contributing either through their Lodge or by direct remittance.

Contributions may be forwarded by Check, Draft or Post Office Order to the order of “SAMUEL C. PERKINS, Chairman and Grand Representative,” or by Registered Letter.

Faithfully, hopefully, and most fraternally,

SAMUEL C. PERKINS,
HORACE FRITZ,
HENRY J. WHITE,
HENDRICK B. WRIGHT,
SAMUEL B. DICK,
CHARLES H. KINGSTON,
JOHN L. THOMSON,
Committee.

NOTE.—All communications on the subject to be addressed to SAMUEL C. PERKINS, CHAIRMAN LOUISIANA COMMITTEE, MASONIC TEMPLE, PHILA'D.

MASONIC TEMPLE,

PHILADELPHIA, June 5, 1874.

The undersigned fraternally asks your attention to the enclosed papers relating to the distress existing among the members of the Masonic brotherhood in Louisiana, with the request that the subject may be brought before your ——— in such manner as your judgment may prompt, in the hopes that the ——— will be pleased to contribute towards this most worthy and urgent object.

Very truly and fraternally yours,

SAMUEL C. PERKINS,
*Representative of M. W. Grand Lodge, and
M. E. G. R. A. Chapter of Louisiana,
P. G. M. and Chairman of Committee of G. L. of Pa.*

MASONIC TEMPLE,

PHILADELPHIA, June 5, A. D. 1874, A. L. 5874.

ESQ.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

DISTRICT No. —

Dear Sir and Brother :—Enclosed you will find copies of the letter missive of the Right Worshipful Grand Master, with the accompanying Circular of the Special Committee appointed by him under Resolution of Right Worshipful Grand Lodge, in reference to the distress among the fraternity of Louisiana, caused by the recent overflows and floods. The Committee earnestly hope that your personal and official influence may be exerted, to secure the most efficient response from the individual members and subordinate Lodges within your District.

A copy of the enclosed papers has been sent to each Lodge. It is important that the response be prompt, and the merits of the case warrant the Committee in asking that it be generous.

Very truly and fraternally yours,

SAMUEL C. PERKINS,
HORACE FRITZ,
HENRY J. WHITE,
HENDRICK B. WRIGHT,
SAMUEL B. DICK,
CHARLES H. KINGSTON,
JOHN L. THOMSON,
Committee.

MASONIC TEMPLE,

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 2, A. D. 1874, A. L. 5874.

The undersigned are pleased to announce, that so liberal have been the contributions of the Craft for the relief of our distressed Brethren

of Louisiana and their families, that further assistance is not needed. The response of Pennsylvania Masons to this appeal to their charity has been noble and prompt. When the accounts are closed, it will appear that \$7,000 and upwards have been forwarded by this Committee since the Appeal was made in June last, in addition to the \$1,000 donated by the Grand Lodge.

SAMUEL C PERKINS,
HORACE FRITZ,
HENRY J. WHITE,
HENDRICK B. WRIGHT,
SAMUEL B. DICK,
CHARLES H. KINGSTON,
JOHN L. THOMSON,
Committee on Louisiana Sufferers.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

TO THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF PENNSYLVANIA, AND MASONIC JURISDICTION THEREUNTO BELONGING:

SIRS AND BROTHERS: Your Committee to whom was referred the petition of certain members of Lodge No.—, asking to remove the suspension of W—C—, late a member of that Lodge, and the accompanying papers, beg leave to report:

That we have carefully examined and considered said petition; the resolution of the Lodge asking for the removal of the suspension, the protest of Brothers J. B. M—, J—, S. C—, John D— and J. S. C—, and the written statement of Brother M. J—, the Worshipful Master of said Lodge at the time the suspension took place, as well as the recommendation of the Deputy District Grand Master. The petition not only asks the restoration of Brother C—, but wishes to have him restored to full membership in said Lodge, and all the protests are directed against the latter part of the application. We were not appointed to pass upon the question of rightfulness or wrongfulness of the suspension, there

is no appeal before us complaining of the act of the Lodge and we could not if we would, examine into the matter. This Grand Lodge can only remove the suspension of Bro. C——, and restore him to good Masonic standing, they cannot as the matter is presented, reverse the action of the Lodge, and annul the vote of suspension, because no one is here complaining of the act. The suspension severed his connection with the Lodge as effectually as if he had never been a member, a restoration will only place the brother in condition to apply to the Lodge or to any other that he may select for admission to membership by petition; and to obtain it, he must pass the ordeal of the ballot. A full examination of the case satisfies us that Brother C—— has been severely dealt with by the Lodge, it appears to us that personal motives had more to do with the suspension than a desire to vindicate the fraternity by the punishment of an offending brother.

We would therefore offer the following resolution and ask to be discharged:

Resolved, That the suspension of Bro. W. C—— by Lodge No.—, be removed and said brother restored to good Masonic standing.

Fraternally submitted,

J. ALEXANDER SIMPSON,
GEORGE G. WAGNER,
ANDREW R. ROBENO, JR.

THE following amendment to the Ahiman Rezon which was offered at the Communication in December, 1873, was then considered and adopted, to wit:

“Amend Sec. 35 of the Ahiman Rezon by striking out of page 36, from the tenth to the twenty-fifth lines inclusive, and inserting the following in lieu thereof, to wit:

“After the expiration of one year any rejected applicant for initiation may renew his application by new petition to the Lodge in which he was rejected, or, with the consent of such Lodge he may apply to any other Lodge.

“In case the application is made to the Lodge in which he was rejected, the petition shall state the fact of the former rejection with the date thereof; if the application to another Lodge the petition shall state that this petitioner has received the consent of * * * Lodge, No.—, to make this application and shall be accompanied by a certificate over the seal of such rejecting Lodge of their consent.

“Before a ballot shall be taken upon such application, notice thereof, stating therein the time when the ballot will be taken shall be sent to every member, and such ballot shall not be taken within one hour after the time fixed for the opening of such Lodge, and in case of the approval of any such applicant, notice thereof shall be sent forthwith to the Grand Secretary.

“The Lodge to which such application is presented may, in addition to the fee for initiation require the payment of the expenses of giving the notices herein required.”

On motion of Brother WILLIAM B. HACKENBURG, it was

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Grand Lodge, that the Report of the Committee on By-Laws in relation to the investments for Life Membership, should be strictly adhered to in any amendments that may be adopted by the Subordinate Lodges, to their permanent fund.

The Report of the Committee on By-Laws here alluded to, reads thus:

“Objection was made to an amendment reducing the permanent fund to the sum of \$15,000, on the ground that this fund was created out of the fees received for Life Memberships, and by the By-Laws is specifically pledged by its investment to secure the payment of the Grand Lodge dues for that class of members, any attempt to dispose of said fund would be a violation of the trust reposed in the Lodge at the

time said payments were made: Your committee agrees as to the principle that no Lodge ought to be allowed to receive moneys on the promise or agreement to invest, and retain invested, the sum or sums for a particular purpose, and then, before the purpose is fulfilled, to direct any part of the principal to the ordinary purposes of the Lodge," &c.

The Right Worshipful Grand Master announced the decease of Past Grand Master Brother JOHN M. READ, and requested Past Grand Master Brother SAMUEL C. PERKINS to prepare and present resolutions on this bereavement, at the Annual Grand Communication on St. John's Day.

Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

ANNUAL GRAND COMMUNICATION.

Held at Philadelphia, December 28th, 1874, A. L. 5874.

Brother ALFRED R. POTTER, Right Worshipful Grand Master, in the Chair.

The Committee on Appeals made the following report, which was approved.

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON APPEALS.

To the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania:

THE appeal in this case is founded upon the ruling of the Worshipful Master of Lodge No.—, who decided that a proposed new section of a By-Law relating to special meetings was out of order. A committee had reported the section, and when it came up for discussion and action, the Worshipful Master, considering that it conflicted with the directions of the Ahiman Rezon, ruled it out of order, and from this decision the brethren have made their appeal.

That the section was a violation of the law of this Grand Lodge is clear, and indeed, it was admitted by the appealing brethren to be so, but they insisted, however, that it was the Master's duty to allow the Lodge to pass upon it, and that its invalidity, or unconstitutionality (taking the Ahiman Rezon as the Constitution) did not justify him in pronouncing it out of order: That under the parliamentary law, did not pertain to the merits of a proposition, but simply to those rules uni-

versally recognised, which regulate business, and enforce decorum: and that this was not a point of order which the Worshipful Master had the right to decide.

Such is not the law anywhere, and most certainly it is not the Masonic Law: it is the bounded duty of the Master to enforce the laws of the Grand Lodge; to submit to the Lodge a proposition in violation of them and to run the risk of its adoption, would subject the Master to just criticism.

The ordinary rules of order for the purpose of governing the proceedings are accepted, only when they are in harmony with the higher regulations, and as our Grand Lodge is the source of all authority, where it has spoken, any attempt to contradict or oppose its edicts must be promptly put down by the Master of the Subordinate Lodge. The committee recommend the following:

Resolved, That the action of Brother W. F. G——, Worshipful Master of Lodge No.——, in deciding it to be out of order to discuss a proposed By-Law, which was in conflict with the directions of the Ahiman Rezon, was entirely right and proper, and that the appeal from his decision be dismissed.

HENRY M. PHILLIPS,

Chairman pro. tem.

To the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania:

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPEAL OF JOHN P——, FROM THE
VOTE OF EXPULSION FROM LODGE NO.——, A. Y. M.

The character of the charges, and the time when the same were originally made, taken together, as shown by the uncontradicted record in this case, do not present such a Masonic offence as justified lodge No.—— in expelling J. P—— from the rights and benefits of Free Masonry. Your committee therefore, offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That Lodge No.—, A. Y. M., be directed to restore Brother John P—— to membership in said Lodge as an E. A. Mason, and that the proceedings of said Lodge in his case be set aside.

Respectfully submitted,

Committee on Appeals.

The Board of Almoners of the Grand Lodge Charity Fund here made the following report :

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ALMONERS.

PHILADELPHIA,

Dec. 28th, A. D. 1874, A. L. 5874.

The Board of Almoners of the Grand Lodge Charity Fund beg leave to make the following report of their proceedings, for the past Masonic year :

The balance on hand at the commencement of the year
 was \$95 25

The Amount appropriated by
 the Trustees was 3,000 00

Total amount, \$3,095 25

The Amount granted during the
 year to 182 applicants was . . \$2,895 25

Less amount returned, 25 00

Making total amount granted 2,870 25

Leaving a balance on hand of \$225 00

Of the applicants to the fund 172 were widows of deceased brethren.

Five were mothers of deceased brethren,

Two “ sisters “ “

Three “ daughters “ “

149	of	them	hailed	from	Pennsylvania,
8	"	"	"	New	York,
4	"	"	"	Virginia,	
3	"	"	"	North	Carolina,
2	"	"	"	South	Carolina,
1	"	"	"	New	Jersey,
1	"	"	"	Georgia,	
1	"	"	"	Delaware,	
2	"	"	"	Washington	Territory,
1	"	"	"	Trinidad,	
3	"	"	"	Ireland,	
5	"	"	"	Canada,	
1	"	"	"	Wisconsin	

Respectfully and fraternally,

HERMAN BAUGH,
President of the Almoner Committee.

The Trustees of the Girard Bequest reported:

The transactions of the Trustees since the Annual Report presented June 3d, 1873, have been as follows:

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE GIRARD BEQUEST.

The Trustees have received since that date up to November 17th, 1873—date of the examination of their Account by the Finance Committee—

From interest on investments, - - - -	\$5,831 75
" " " Deposits in the Penn'a Company	
for Insurance on Lives, &c. -	42 78
From Premium on Gold, - - - -	71 66
	<hr/>
Making a total income of - - - -	\$5,946 19
To which add Balance in the Pennsylvania Com-	
pany, June 3d, 1873, - - - -	721 86
	<hr/>
Makes a total of - - - -	\$6,668 05

They have paid during the same period, on orders drawn by the Grand Master in favor of the Grand Treasurer, for the use of the Stewards of the Stephen Girard Charity Fund, - - - \$4,500 00

Leaving a balance November 17th, 1874 of - \$2,168 05
on deposit in the Pennsylvania Company, at 3 per cent. interest, as appeared by the settlement of the deposit book.

Since the 17th of November the Trustees have received: Interest on deposits in the Pennsylvania Company, for the year, from November 30th, 1873, to November

30th, 1874, - - - - -	\$51 90
Interest on Lehigh Gold Loan - - - - -	195 00
Premium on gold @ 11 $\frac{3}{8}$, - - - - -	22 18
	<hr/>
	\$289 08

The balance on hand, together with estimated income, will, in the opinion of the Trustees, justify an appropriation of \$3,000, for the coming year, for the charitable purposes of the Trust, and also the addition of from \$1,000 to \$1,500 to the permanent investments of the Fund, which will be made as soon as advantageous securities can be obtained.

The usual amounts have been paid, for the use of the Stewards of the Stephen Girard Charity Fund, for the third and fourth quarters of the year, 1874, and the Trustees ask that these payments be ratified by the Grand Lodge.

There has been no change in the investments since the date of the last Report, June 3d, 1873, and they are as follows:

New Masonic Temple Loan Certificate, No. 35,		
2d Series, - - - - -	- - - - -	\$14,000 00
Certificate No. 58, 3d Series, - - - - -	- - - - -	1,500 00
“ “ 99, 5th “ - - - - -	- - - - -	1,500 00
“ “ 24, 6th “ - - - - -	- - - - -	15,500 00
“ “ 48, 7th “ - - - - -	- - - - -	12,500 00
“ “ 15, 8th “ - - - - -	- - - - -	4,000 00
		<hr/>
		\$49,000 00

Bond and Mortgage Sunbury Masonic Hall Association, balance due	-	-	-	-	\$1,000 00
Lehigh Coal and Navigation Gold Loan,					
6 Certificates, Nos. 3134, 3259, 3260,					
3261, 3262, 3263, for \$1,000 each	-				\$6,000
1 Certificate Do. No. 989	-			500	6,500 00
Making total Investment, par value	-			-	<hr/> \$56,500 00

The securities are in the care of the Chairman, and are deposited in the fire-proof safe in the office of the Grand Secretary.

The Trustees respectfully ask the adoption of the resolutions submitted herewith.

SAMUEL C. PERKINS,
GEORGE THOMSON,
CHARLES M. PREVOST,
HENRY C. HOWELL,
JACOB ROBERTS,

Trustees.

The Stewards of the Stephen Girard Charity Fund reported:

**REPORT OF STEWARDS OF THE STEPHEN GIRARD
CHARITY FUND.**

The undersigned, on behalf of the Stewards of the Stephen Girard Charity Fund, presents the following report of their proceedings, for the year ending December 26th, 1874.

In the performance of their official duty, they have granted relief to one hundred and eighteen (118) poor and respectable brethren, to wit:

To 99 applicants hailing under this jurisdiction, \$2,800 88
 To 19 applicants hailing from foreign jurisdictions viz:

To 2	hailing from	England,	- - -	\$45 00
" 2	"	Scotland,	- - -	80 00
" 1	"	South Wales,	- - -	20 00
" 1	"	Ireland,	- - -	10 00
" 2	"	Washington, D. C.,	- - -	55 00
" 1	"	New York,	- - -	10 00
" 1	"	Maine,	- - -	30 00
" 1	"	Vermont,	- - -	15 00
" 2	"	Ohio,	- - -	60 00
" 1	"	Missouri,	- - -	20 00
" 1	"	Minnesota,	- - -	20 00
" 1	"	Virginia,	- - -	20 00
" 1	"	Tennessee,	- - -	40 00
" 1	"	Illinois,	- - -	20 00
" 1	"	Maryland,	- - -	20 00
				<hr/> 465 00

Total amount granted to applicants, \$3,265 88

PER CONTRA:

Balance on hand December 26th, 1873,	- - -	\$258 00
Amount drawn for Class No. 1,	- - -	800 00
" " " " 2,	- - -	700 00
" " " " 3,	- - -	700 00
" " " " 4,	- - -	800 00
Amount received from Grand Treasurer, interest on deposits,	- - -	7 88
		<hr/> \$3,265 88

The pressure upon the Stewards for relief during the past year, has been much greater than any other which they have heretofore experienced, caused doubtless by the general stagnation of business: double the amount appropriated by the Grand Lodge, would scarcely have sufficed to relieve all the wants of those poor brethren whose misfortunes compelled them to apply to this Committee. Trusting, however, that a brighter future is in prospect, we humbly rely upon Him "who tempereth the wind to the shorn lamb."

Respectfully submitted by

E. P. LESCURE,
President of the Stewards.

ADDRESS

OF THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER.

BRETHREN OF THE GRAND LODGE :

Time, in its rapid flight, has brought us safely to the beginning of another Masonic year. As we stand upon its threshold, let us take a retrospective glance at the past, and, around the altar of Masonry, renew our vows of allegiance in the spirit of a true fraternity, and in obedience to the requirements and obligations which, as brethren, we owe to each other.

The Masonic institution, as all associations, private or public, as well as in matters of trade, has been more or less affected by the general depression of business consequent upon the financial crises through which we have been passing, and from which we may hope, for the sake of a common humanity, (if nothing more,) are now emerging. In the face of this general depression the Craft have not withheld the helping hand to aid and assist the worthy, in their distress, whether of this or any other Jurisdiction throughout the world. The cry of distress came up from our suffering brethren in Louisiana. The floods had risen, and overwhelmed them,

destroying crops and houses and impoverishing whole families. At once our hearts were enlarged toward them. A Committee of this Grand Lodge were appointed, who with earnest purpose and willing hands, entered on their work. Circulars were prepared and sent to the several Subordinate Lodges in the State; a generous response was made to their appeal, and the sum of about \$7,000 collected, and sent to Relief Lodge No. 1, of Louisiana, to be distributed by our brethren there as in their judgment was deemed most efficient to relieve the sufferers.

On assuming the Oriental Chair, one year since, I called the attention of the Brethren to that portion of the Ahiman Rezon, on page 34, referring to the printing and publishing the proceedings of a Lodge, or any part thereof, without the permission of the proper Masonic authority, and it has been my endeavor to enforce this regulation. I can see no good reason why the outside world should be made acquainted with any part of our work; it is an innovation of recent years, and a violation of the rules, regulations and edicts of the Grand Lodge, which every one admitted to the rites and privileges of Masonry, in a duly constituted and lawfully warranted Lodge, has voluntarily bound himself to obey.

Such violation has led to the making of many books and the introduction of lecturers, mere adventurers, who affect to dispense light and knowledge,—benefiting the profane more than the Craft, and whose whole animus is of a mercenary character. Brethren, shun them. What you cannot learn in a well-officered Lodge of intelligent Masons they cannot teach you. I am glad to say that in some of the districts under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, the District Deputy Grand Masters have set their faces against such innovations and practices, and prohibited the Lodges holding fraternal intercourse with these travelling “book-masons.” Complaints have been made to me in our own city, calling my attention to the fraud attempted to be perpetrated on the Craft, ostensibly for the purpose of enlightenment, but in reality to sell books, relics, etc. I trust, Brethren, such things will not be tolerated. Let us keep up to the ancient customs, usages and landmarks of our fraternity.

During the Masonic year just closed, accompanied by such of the Grand Officers as could make it convenient, I have visited and held Grand Lodges of Instruction at Tremont, Pottsville, Great Bend, Meadville, Erie, Oil City, Kittanning, Williamsport and Chambersburg. A large attendance of the brethren greeted us at these

several communications, and I trust our visits were of benefit to the Craft.

I have also visited and exemplified the work in seven Lodges contiguous to the city, and in obedience to the regulations of the Ahiman Rezon visited twenty-eight of our city Lodges, reserving the remainder for the present year. On all these occasions the spirit of fraternal kindness and courtesy were manifestly present.

In addition to these labors, following the example of my immediate predecessors, I have, on the day following our Quarterly Grand Communications, held a Grand Lodge of Instruction; at the last of which, held in December, I exemplified the work of the three degrees on candidates furnished by the Worshipful Masters of Mitchell Lodge, No. 296, and St. Albans Lodge, No. 529.

On July 4th, the nation's anniversary, at the request of my Right Worshipful Brother P. G. M. SAMUEL C. PERKINS, President of the Board of Commissioners for the erection of the Public Buildings, and in accordance with a resolution of the Commissioners, and assisted by the Grand Officers and a goodly number of the members of the Grand Lodge, I laid, at high twelve, the cornerstone of the New Public Buildings at Broad and Market Streets, (with the customary Masonic ceremonial,) in

the presence of his Honor the Mayor, Brother W. S. STOKLEY, the Commissioners of the Public Buildings, Members of Councils, and a large concourse of citizens.

A Masonic silver trowel, manufactured expressly for the occasion, and suitably engraved, was, after use, presented by the Commissioners of the Public Buildings to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, as a memento of the act, and has been placed in the office of the Grand Master.

The fraternity has been called to mourn, the past year, the decease of two of our most distinguished Past Grand Masters.

Right Worshipful P. G. M. Bro. SAMUEL H. PERKINS, departed this life May 22d, 1874, full of years and honors. His name will be forever associated with the Craft in Pennsylvania, not only for his heart-felt and earnest work and zeal for the best interests of this Grand Lodge, during a long Masonic life, but especially for his devotion to the fraternity in its days of peril, when fanaticism was rampant, and the advocates of anti-masonry, like the Car of Juggernaut, would crush its victims to the earth. Had he rendered no other service that in itself would have been the crowning act of his Masonic life.

All that was mortal of our deceased brother was followed to their last resting place by a large concourse of the brethren, and buried with the customary Masonic services.

November 26th, death again invaded our ranks and called another who had presided in the Oriental Chair to come up higher. I allude to Right Worshipful P. G. M. Bro. JOHN M. READ, one of the most distinguished of the legal profession, and who had graced the highest seat in the Supreme Court of this State. He, too, was gathered to his fathers “like a shock of corn fully ripe,” having served the interests of Freemasonry faithfully in “his day and generation.”

The report of the Finance Committee should impress us all, my Brethren, with the importance of rigid economy in the expenditures, not only of the Grand Lodge, but of the Subordinate Lodges. The Grand Lodge, and through it every member of the fraternity, should take a pride in maintaining the good faith and credit of the Craft, and to enable the Grand Lodge to meet the pecuniary obligations arising from the erection of our magnificent Temple, prompt payment of rents and dues from Subordinate Lodges are absolutely necessary—a little self-denial of the social element in our organization will enable each Lodge to do so, and relieve

the Grand Officers of much anxiety in the financial departments of this Grand Lodge.

By the report of Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, there were, in December 27th, 1873 :

Lodges, - - - - -	353
During the year I have constituted in person, -	3
And by District Deputy Grand Master, - -	<u>1</u>
Total, - - - - -	357
The number of Members, Dec. 27, 1872, was	36,190
Admitted in 1873, - - - - -	659
Initiated in 1873, - - - - -	<u>2,665</u>
	39,514
Resigned, suspended and deceased, - -	<u>1,968</u>
Leaving the number of Members Dec. 27, 1873,	37,546

During the year, I have granted the following dispensations :

To Raise, - - - - -	9
“ Craft and Raise, - - - - -	4
“ Pass the Chair, - - - - -	<u>493</u>
Total, - - - - -	<u>506</u>
Yielding a revenue of, - - - - -	<u><u>\$5,100</u></u>

And now, Brethren, as I enter again upon the duties and responsibilities of another Masonic year, let me ask a continuance of your confidence and assistance in my labors.

The peace and harmony which have so happily prevailed in the past, I trust may long continue to dwell among us. And, above all, let us invoke the aid and presence of the Great Creator of Light and Life in all our deliberations, “from whom alone cometh every good and perfect gift,” and without whose blessing all other gifts would be unavailing, and do us no good.

The following-named Brethren, elected at the Quarterly Grand Communication, held on December 2d, A. D. 1874, A. L. 5874, for the ensuing Masonic year, were then duly installed in their respective stations in ancient and solemn form, as follows:—

Bro. ALFRED R. POTTER,

Right Worshipful Grand Master.

Bro. ROBERT CLARK,

Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master.

Bro. J. MADISON PORTER,

Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden.

Bro. MICHAEL NISBET,

Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden.

Bro. THOMAS R. PATTON,

Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer.

Bro. JOHN THOMSON,

Right Worshipful Grand Secretary.

The Right Worshipful Grand Master ALFRED R. POTTER, Esq., was then pleased to announce the following appointments, for the present Masonic year.

GRAND CHAPLAINS.

Rev. Bro. JOHN CHAMBERS, D. D.,

“ WILLIAM SUDDARDS, D. D.,

“ ROBERT H. PATTISON, D. D.,

“ RICHARD H. ALLEN, D. D.,

“ J. W. CUSTIS,

“ JAMES W. ROBINS, D. D.,

“ EDGAR M. LEVY,

“ JOSEPH S. EVANS, *of West Chester.*

“ J. J. McILYAR, *of Pittsburg.*

“ FRANK E. MILLER, *of Easton.*

“ HENRY S. GETZ, *of Warren.*

“ WILLIAM SMITH HEATON, *of Columbia.*

} *Of Philadelphia.*

Senior Grand Deacon, - - Bro. ISAAC VAN DUSEN,
Lodge No. 441, Philadelphia.

Junior Grand Deacon, - - Bro. ALFRED SLACK,
Lodge No. 318, Allegheny City.

Grand Stewards, - - { Bro. GEORGE B. COLE,
Lodge No. 315, Shippensburg.
Bro. JAMES MORRELL,
Lodge No. 114 Philadelphia.

Grand Marshall, - - - - Bro. GEORGE W. WOOD,
Lodge No. 67, Philadelphia.

Grand Sword Bearer, - - Bro. A. J. KAUFFMAN,
Lodge No. 286, Columbia.

Grand Pursuivant, - - - Bro. S. KINGSTON McCAY,
Lodge No. 72, Philadelphia.

Grand Tyler, - - - - - Bro. HARRISON G. CLARK,
Lodge No. 158, Philadelphia.

Committee on Finance. - { Bro. J. C. YEAGER,
Lodge No. 158, Philadelphia.
Bro. JAMES HERDMAN,
Lodge No. 287, Philadelphia.
Bro. E. HARPER JEFFRIES,
Lodge No. 186, Philadelphia.
Bro. WILLIAM H. EAGLE,
Lodge No. 398, Marietta.
Bro. CONRAD B. DAY,
Lodge No 52, Philadelphia.

Committee on Appeals. -

- Bro. JAMES PAGE,
Right Worshipful Past Grand Master.
- Bro. RICHARD VAUX,
Right Worshipful Past Grand Master.
- Bro. HENRY M. PHILLIPS,
Right Worshipful Past Grand Master.
- Bro. HENRY M. DECHERT,
Lodge No. 274, Philadelphia.
- Bro. HENDRICKS B. WRIGHT,
Lodge No. 61, Wilkesbarre.

*Committee on
Correspondence.*

- Bro. E. COPPEE MITCHELL,
Lodge No. 126 Philadelphia.
- Bro. JAMES HOUSTON,
Lodge No. 246 Mauch Chunk.
- Bro. JOHN C. UHLE,
Lodge No. 246, Philadelphia.
- Bro. W. H. HOOPER,
Lodge No. 134, Philadelphia.
- Bro. J. J. WADSWORTH,
Lodge No. 455, Erie.

Committee on By-Laws.

- Bro. J. ALEXANDER SIMPSON,
Lodge No. 385, Philadelphia.
- Bro. WM. B. HACKENBURG,
Lodge No. 246, Philadelphia.
- Bro. W. A. MORTON,
Lodge No. 476, Philadelphia.
- Bro. J. T. KERR,
Lodge No. 302, Mechanicsburg.
- Bro. SAMUEL WHITTLE,
Lodge No. 9, Philadelphia.

Committee on Landmarks.

- Bro. JOHN THOMSON,
Right Worshipful Past Grand Master.
- Bro. RICHARD VAUX,
Right Worshipful Past Grand Master.
- Bro. ROBERT A. LAMBERTON,
Right Worshipful Past Grand Master,
- With the Right Worshipful Grand Master and
Deputy Grand Master.

*Committee on Printing
and Publishing.*

- Bro. PRICE I. PATTON,
Lodge No. 59, Philadelphia.
- Bro. JOEL THOMAS,
Lodge No. 72, Philadelphia.
- Bro. J. F. NEAL,
Lodge No 271, Philadelphia.
- Bro. C. N. HICKOK,
Lodge No. 320, Bedford.
- Bro. SOLOMON G. GRONE,
Lodge No. 464, Harrisburg.

Temple Committee. - -

- Bro. W. J. KELLY,
Lodge No. 59, Philadelphia.
- Bro. HIBBERT P. JOHN,
Lodge No. 369, Philadelphia.
- Bro. SAMUEL W. WRAY,
Lodge No. 51, Philadelphia.
- Bro. H. K. SMITH,
Lodge No. 81, Philadelphia.
- Bro. GODFREY KEEBLER,
Lodge No. 487 Philadelphia.

*'Commissioners of Sinking
Fund.*

- Bro. JAMES PAGE,
Right Worshipful Past Grand Master
- Bro. SAMUEL C. PERKINS,
Right Worshipful Past Grand Master.
- Bro. GEORGE K. ZEIGLER,
Lodge No. 125, Philadelphia.
- Bro. HENRY J. WHITE,
Lodge No. 72, Philadelphia.
- Bro. HORACE FRITZ,
Lodge No. 67, Philadelphia.

Library Committee. - -

- Bro. CHARLES E. MEYER,
Lodge No. 295, Philadelphia.
- Bro. RICHARDS MUCKLE,
Lodge No. 125, Philadelphia.
- Bro. ROBERT H. PATTISON,
Lodge No. 295, Philadelphia.
- Bro. EDWARD S. WYCKOFF,
Lodge No. 19, Philadelphia.
- Bro. CHARLES K. IDE,
Lodge No. 51, Philadelphia.
- Bro. JOHN L. YOUNG,
Lodge No. 130, Philadelphia.
- Bro. WM. H. BUCKHART,
Lodge No. 456, Philadelphia.

ALMONERS OF THE GRAND LODGE CHARITY FUND.

Brother EDWARD WILER, - - - -	<i>Lodge No.</i> 2
“ A. NELSON BATTEN, - - - -	“ 3
“ JOHN McVEAGH, - - - -	“ 9
“ W. A. SINN, - - - -	“ 19
“ WM. F. GRIFFITHS, - - - -	“ 51
“ LOUIS WAGNER, - - - -	“ 52
“ WM. B. REED, - - - -	“ 59
“ HARMAN BAUGH, - - - -	“ 61
“ W. B. LANDON, - - - -	“ 71
“ JAMES C. WRAY, - - - -	“ 72
“ WM. L. DRANE, - - - -	“ 91
“ HARRY R. CLARK, - - - -	“ 114
“ JOS. K. PARKER, - - - -	“ 115
“ ROBERT SCOTT, - - - -	“ 121
“ FRED PHILIPP, - - - -	“ 125
“ JAMES LANING, - - - -	“ 126
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"	SAMUEL F. MITCHELL,	-	-	-	"	419
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"	GEORGE BENNETT,	-	-	-	"	449
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DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

- 1.—Brother FITZ JAMES EVANS, of York, for the Counties of Lancaster, York and Adams.
- 2.—Brother ROBERT L. MUENCH, of Harrisburg, for the Counties of Dauphin, Northumberland and Montour.
- 3.—Brother ROBERT II. THOMAS, of Mechanicsburg, for the Counties of Cumberland, Franklin and Fulton.
- 4.—Brother S. E. ANCONA, of Reading, for the Counties of Berks and Lebanon.
- 5.—Brother CHRISTOPHER LITTLE, of Pottsville, for the Counties of Schuylkill and Columbia.
- 6.—Brother EDWARD P. KINGSBURY, of Scranton, for the County of Luzerne.
- 7.—Brother URIAH SANDT, of Easton, for the Counties of Northampton and Monroe.
- 8.—Brother ROBERT C. SIMPSON, of Wellsboro', for the County of Tioga.
- 9.—Brother EDWARD HERRICK, JR., of Athens, for the Counties of Bradford, Sullivan and Wyoming.
- 10.—Brother GEORGE S. SNYDER, of Williamsport, for the Counties of Lycoming, Union and Snyder.
- 11.—Brother PETER L. GREENLEAF, M. D., of Thompsettown, for the Counties of Perry, Mifflin and Juniata.
- 12.—Brother ALEXANDER M. LLOYD, of Hollidaysburg, for the Counties of Cambria, Huntingdon, Blair and Bedford.
- 13.—Brother * * * * * ,
for the Counties of Elk, Cameron, McKean and Potter.

- 14.—Brother HARRISON T. BEARDSLEY, of Lock Haven, for the Counties of Centre, Clearfield and Clinton.
- 15.—Brother BRANTON H. HENDERSON, of Sharon, for the Counties of Butler, Lawrence, Mercer and Beaver.
- 16.—Brother RICHARD COULTER, of Greensburg, for the Counties of Westmoreland and Indiana.
- 17.—Brother A. M. POLLOCK, M. D., of Pittsburgh, for the County of Allegheny.
- 18.—Brother W. B. MEREDITH, of Kittanning, for the Counties of Clarion, Armstrong and Jefferson.
- 19.—Brother FREDERICK WHITTLESEY, of Washington, for the Counties of Washington and Greene.
- 20.—Brother C. M. HOOVER, of Franklin, for the Counties of Warren, Venango and Forrest.
- 21.—Brother PEARSON CHURCH, of Meadville, of the County of Crawford.
- 22.—Brother ROBERT E. PATTERSON, of Jenkintown, for the Counties of Bucks and Montgomery.
- 23.—Brother ROBERT L. McCLELLAN, of Cochranville, for the Counties of Chester and Delaware.
- 24.—Brother THOMAS S. McNAIR, of Hazleton, for the Counties of Carbon and Lehigh.
- 25.—Brother WILLIAM CHATLAND, of Brownsville, for the Counties of Fayette and Somerset.
- 26.—Brother WILLIAM HIMROD, JR., of Erie, for the County of Erie.
- 27.—Brother JOHN H. DUSENBURY, of Great Bend, for the Counties of Susquehanna, Wayne and Pike.

JOHN THOMSON,

Grand Secretary.

REPORT

OF THE

Committee on Correspondence.

To the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania:

THE Committee on Correspondence (consisting of Brothers E. COPPEE MITCHELL, of No. 126; JAMES HOUSTON, of No. 242; JOHN C. UHLE, of No. 246; PRICE I. PATTON, of No. 59, and J. J. WADSWORTH, of No. 455,) by their chairman, respectfully report :

That we have received from the Grand Secretary the reports of proceedings of forty-seven Grand Lodges, with other pamphlets and official papers from foreign jurisdictions—we have carefully reviewed the same, and have in this report called attention to such matters as we considered to be of most interest to the brethren in Pennsylvania.

It has come down to us from those able and experienced brethren who have occupied this responsible position in past years, as an unbending rule to govern this committee, that it is no part of our duty to pass judgment upon matters either of legislation or administration wherein we find our brethren

in other jurisdictions differ from our own laws and customs. That each Grand Lodge, being sovereign within the limits of its own jurisdiction, has the undoubted right to regulate its affairs according to its own judgment.

To this traditional policy we have adhered; not only because it has been an established usage, and is entitled on that account to be respected; but also because, in the performance of our duty we have found it a wise and safe policy for ourselves, totally inexperienced in this branch of Masonic duty, to avoid all appearance of sitting in the seat of judgment and passing sentence upon others, while we ourselves are so liable to fall into error. Such reflections of our own as are found in our report, are offered, therefore, rather as suggestions to our brethren at home, than as criticisms upon the action of the Grand Lodges or brethren whose proceedings are under review.

The year just closed has been—generally speaking—one of prosperity to the Craft in America. Even where it has happened that the numbers of the brethren have not increased, there has been instead a consolidation of material strength—a hardening of the bone, and sinew, and muscle, and a growth in all the elements that give power and vigor to any organization. There is an almost infinite variety of questions discussed in the proceedings of the several Grand Lodges: from the great subject of Grand Lodge sovereignty and exclusive territorial jurisdiction, down to the smallest details of administration of affairs; the prerogatives of Grand Masters, the Ancient Landmarks, the powers of Masters of Lodges, the rights and duties of members and brethren not members of Lodges, questions of finance, dues, fees, income and expenditure, of Masonic discipline, offences, trials, courts and jurisprudence, matters of Masonic History and Biography, Symbolism and Ritual, and hosts of others which cannot be enumerated. Active and earnest minds everywhere are occupied in these considerations. We find them in Grand Masters' Addresses, Reports of Deputies and Inspectors,

Reports of Committees on Landmarks, Jurisprudence, Grievances and Appeals, and, at greater length, in the reports of the Committees on Correspondence.

There is exhibited a great craving for more light and knowledge, and eager brethren in almost every jurisdiction are accumulating Grand Lodge Libraries, writing Masonic Histories, and collecting memorials of the early days of Masonry in America, to be preserved from oblivion for the instruction of the generations to come. Our brethren of the Library Committee need to look to their laurels, or they will allow us to be surpassed by some of our younger sisters.

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania enjoys fraternal relations with all the Grand Lodges in North America, except that of Quebec, (which we hope will be recognized at this Communication,) and is mentioned by all in terms of respect and brotherly kindness. Many of the Grand Officers of the various Grand Lodges attended the dedication of our beautiful Temple, and we have in many instances quoted what they had to say to their Grand Lodges on their return home, as we are sure the brethren in Pennsylvania will be interested to know the impressions the visiting brethren on that occasion, took away with them. All speak in terms of admiration of the building and its equipment, and commend warmly the hospitality of the Craft in Philadelphia.

Our report has been prepared in the midst of pressing calls of business, and by an unaccustomed hand. We bespeak the lenient judgment of our brethren. All the extracts we have quoted have been copied by hand, into the report, in order that we might restore to the Grand Lodge the volumes and pamphlets we have received, without injury. They will very shortly be placed upon the shelves in the Library.

We have received and reviewed proceedings from the following Grand Lodges, viz:

ALABAMA.	MISSISSIPPI.
ARKANSAS.	MISSOURI.
CALIFORNIA.	NEBRASKA.
CANADA.	NEVADA.
COLORADO.	NEW BRUNSWICK.
CONNECTICUT.	NEW HAMPSHIRE.
DELAWARE.	NEW JERSEY.
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.	NEW YORK.
FLORIDA.	NORTH CAROLINA.
GEORGIA.	NOVA SCOTIA.
IDAHO.	OHIO.
ILLINOIS.	OREGON:
INDIANA.	QUEBEC.
IOWA.	RHODE ISLAND.
KANSAS.	SOUTH CAROLINA.
KENTUCKY.	TENNESSEE.
LOUISIANA.	TEXAS.
MAINE.	UTAH.
MARYLAND.	VERMONT.
MASSACHUSETTS,	VIRGINIA.
MICHIGAN.	WASHINGTON.
MINNESOTA.	WEST VIRGINIA.
MONTANA.	WISCONSIN.

ALABAMA.

WE have received the printed proceedings of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, at its Fifty-third Annual Communication, held in the New Masonic Temple, in the City of Montgomery, beginning December 1st, 1873. Most Worshipful JOSEPH H. JOHNSON, Grand Master, presiding, and two hundred Lodges represented.

The Grand Master, in his annual address, referred to the fact that the Fraternity had not increased in numbers as in former years, although Masonry had not lost any of its interest in Alabama. The reasons for this diminution, the Grand Master said, were well-known.

Among the many decisions made we note several which seem to us of interest—for instance:

That the Grand Master has no right to issue a dispensation to confer the F. C. and M. M. degrees in a shorter time than is "required by our laws."

It is an undoubted prerogative of the office of Grand Master that he may make a Mason "at sight;" though it is a conservative principle of Masonic Law that this prerogative should be exercised with great caution and only under imperative circumstances. And it is certainly generally understood among the Craft as a Landmark that a Grand Master may dispense with the delay required before an E. A. can be advanced, although the same conservative limitation to the prerogative exists, that the dispensation should not be given upon slight cause. An illustration of this may be found in the decision of the Grand Master of Connecticut, reported in the proceedings for 1874, (now before this committee,) to the effect that the time will not be shortened merely because the candidate is about to take a journey. A decision which accords with the practice always pursued by the Grand Masters of Pennsylvania.

The decisions are :

A Worshipful Master of a Blue Lodge has a right to revoke a vote of the Lodge for a public celebration of St. John's Day; Lodges may change their By-Laws to any extent without submitting the same to the Grand Lodge,—Officers re-elected need not be re-installed,—and, there can be no Masonic ceremonies over the grave of a brother already buried.

The Report of the Committee of Correspondence mentions Pennsylvania in pleasant terms, and gives the statistics of our jurisdiction. The report was presented by Bro. H. C. TOMPKINS; but it was prepared by the chairman, Brother RICHARD F. KNOTT, who died November 22d, 1873, a short time before the meeting of the Grand Lodge. His decease was the occasion of great grief to the brethren in Alabama; in the words of the Grand Master,

“He was a genial companion, an enthusiastic Mason, and well versed in Masonic Law. His hand was ever open to the call of charity, and he will be long remembered by the poor and needy of his immediate neighborhood, while his memory will be as fresh and green in the hearts of us all, as the acacia at the head of his grave.”

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence report a singular case. A brother was tried for killing another; on the vote as to his punishment, two-thirds were required for expulsion. There were twenty-four present; sixteen of whom (the Worshipful Master being one,) voted for expulsion, and eight against it. The right of the Master to vote under such circumstances being in question, the committee held: 1. That the Worshipful Master *must* vote; and 2. That the brother was expelled. The Grand Lodge concurred.

Most Worshipful Bro. ISAIAH A. WILSON, Deputy Grand Master, was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful DANIEL SAYRE, was re-elected Grand Secretary.

395 Lodges, 10,081 Members. Decrease in number during the year, 130.

ARKANSAS.

IN the midst of the "wars and rumours of wars," in the struggle for political power, come to us the Proceedings of the Thirty-fifth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, held in the City of Little Rock, October 13th, 1873. Most Worshipful E. R. DUVAL, Grand Master, in the Oriental Chair, and one hundred and fourteen Lodges being represented.

The Grand Master's annual address vividly depicts the troubles under which our brethren, in common with other inhabitants of Arkansas, have suffered during the year, arising from the prostration of agricultural and business interests, the scourge of cholera and pestilence, and the political and popular tumults which unsettled their condition and unfixed their hopes. He says :

"Many of our merchants, mechanics and professional men, unable to bear the stagnation, the prostration everywhere existing, have reluctantly abandoned a hope for prosperity in a land for which their warmest sympathies and affections were enlisted, and have moved away to more favored regions."

Let us sympathize with our brethren, and hope that brighter days may be in store for them, and that they may come soon.

"Behind the cloud, is the sun, still shining."

Mentioning the receipt of an invitation to be present at the dedication our Temple, the Grand Master regrets that he could not be present, and says : "The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania is one of the oldest and most influential in America, and its jurisdiction has ever been noted for its liberal and genuine Masonic hospitality."

Right Worshipful Bro. POWERS, District Deputy Grand Master, was sent by the Grand Master to visit the Lodges in the Choctaw Nation, in the Indian Territory. He reported

them to be in the hands of skillful workmen, and that peace and harmony reigned. Is it meant that these Lodges are composed of *real* brethren? A glance at the returns of the Subordinate Lodges shows that there are four such Lodges under this jurisdiction.

We note among the decisions the following, which are of interest,

An entry should never be made, either on the petition or on the Lodge books, of how a committee reported. A candidate who cannot write his name should not be initiated. There can be no Masonic ceremony over the grave of one already buried.

With regard to the first of these, we will venture to suggest a single question. If the unfavorable report of a committee is equivalent to rejection, and that is a fact of *future importance to the candidate*, should there not be some record of it.

Most Worshipful GEORGE A. DANNELLY, Grand Lecturer, was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful LUKE E. BARBER was re-elected Grand Secretary. At the Installation of the Grand Officers, an eloquent oration was delivered by Right Worshipful Bro. GEORGE E. DODGE, Grand Orator, which we regret we can only mention—it will repay perusal at length.

There are 321 Lodges, with 10,643 Members. Increase 402.

CALIFORNIA.

FROM "the golden gate, where the sun goes down," come the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of California, a thick book of four hundred and forty-two pages. We can scarcely wonder at the idea which seems to have struck some of the brethren, that the "printing expenses" of the Grand Lodge were a trifle heavy. It is only just to say that (barring the long list of names,) we found all of it pleasant and instructive reading.

The Twenty-fourth Annual Communication was held at the Masonic Temple, San Francisco, beginning October 14th, 1873. Most Worshipful LEONIDAS E. PRATT, Grand Master, presiding, and one hundred and seventy-six Lodges represented.

The Grand Master's Annual Address is a strong and able document. His views on many subjects are very decided, and he expresses himself in vigorous terms. We notice with pleasure that he reports the Fraternity in a prosperous condition, the Lodges being stronger than ever before, both in numbers and resources. His exhortations against the vices of intemperance and profanity amongst brethren, as a reproach to the Fraternity, are most eloquent, and worthy to be heard in every jurisdiction; especially, since his opinions on the subject are not extreme or fanatical. We regret that we cannot transcribe them, for want of space.

The practice of naming Lodges after living men is discussed by the Grand Master. He thinks it an imprudent one and that it ought to be discontinued. The subject was brought to his notice by a request from brethren intending to form a new Lodge that it should bear his name. He was thus free to express his opinion without danger of wounding the feelings of any one else; and his remarks are worthy of consideration. "When we have passed from earth," he continues, "if we have been faithful to the end, it will be soon enough for us to receive such honors."

Among the decisions we notice the following:

The Grand Master stopped the initiation of a candidate duly elected, upon representations of his unfitness received from *brethren not members* of the Lodge.

An excellent precedent. No Lodge should be permitted to work upon unworthy material, whether willing or not. By all means let investigation *precede* initiation, where it is possible.

The Grand Master enforced a Resolution of the Grand Lodge that no Worshipful Master elect should be installed until he had received a certificate of qualification from the Inspector of his District.

The existenee and enforcement of such a resolution shows that Masonry is strong and vigorous in California. It cannot be doubted that it deprives a Subordinate Lodge of its free choice in electing a Master, for it can only nominate one, who cannot enter upon his office without the approbation of an independent—not to say superior power.

The Grand Lodge condemned the action of certain Masons in naming a saving fund, "the Masonic Savings Bank of San Francisco," and concurred in the report of a committee to the effect that the use of Masonic signs, emblems or names in business was a violation of the true spirit and unwritten law of Masonry.

The Very Reverend WILLIAM H. HILL, Grand Chaplain, is also Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, and presented a voluminous and interesting report for that committee, enriched with suggestions which come from long experience, it being the sixth time that duty has fallen to his share. Brother HILL's wit is by no means dimmed by the blackness of the cloth he wears, and he lavishes it on our "Quaker Commonwealth" in a style which proves that he is highly endowed with one quality much prized by "Friends," to wit: *plainness of speech*. Still, his criticisms are conceived in a spirit of pleasant good-nature, and it is to be regretted that he will not continue in the laborious position he has so long and ably filled. The committee appointed to consider how the Grand Lodge could retrench its expenses, would not hear of a suggestion to reduce the amount of printing by cutting down the length of the Report of the Committee on Correspondence, so fully did they appreciate Bro. HILL's labors. We notice that another name appears also among the appointments of the incoming Grand Master, as Grand Chaplain—a position which Brother HILL filled for fifteen years, according to his own report, with fourteen-parson power, reckoned on the Pennsylvanian scale; but they have everything big in California. Appended to Brother HILL's report is a valuable statistical table, showing the condition of the Fraternity in North America in 1873, of which we copy the

totals. Lodges, 9,067. Initiated, 39,487. Members, 590,721. Net increase in 1873, 26,208.

Most Worshipful ISAAC S. TITUS was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful ALEXANDER G. ABELL was re-elected Grand Secretary.

CANADA.

A SPECIAL Communication of the Grand Lodge was held in the City of Hamilton, July 1st, 1873. Most Worshipful WM. M. WILSON, Grand Master, with Masters, Past Masters, and over seven hundred brethren present, to lay the corner-stone of a New Masonic Hall in Hamilton, about to be erected by the Hamilton Masonic Hall Association. The ceremonies were impressive, and the stone pronounced plumb, level and square, was "well-made, truly laid, true and trusty." A banquet closed the day.

The Eighteenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge was held in the Queen's Hall, in the City of Montreal, beginning July 9th, 1873. Most Worshipful Bro. WILLIAM M. WILSON, Grand Master, on the throne. Two hundred and twenty Lodges represented. Most Worshipful Bro. THOMAS DOUGLAS HARRINGTON, Representative of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania being present.

The Grand Master's annual address is confined to a brief detail of the Masonic events of the past year—particular attention being given to the non-intercourse and withdrawal of friendly relations between the Grand Lodge of Canada and the Grand Lodges of Vermont, Louisiana, and Illinois.

Pursuing the policy of our predecessors on this committee, and in obedience to the traditional conservatism which has always marked the official action of the Grand Lodge of

Pennsylvania, we refrain from any hostile criticism upon the action of these Grand Bodies, but we cannot help venturing the suggestion that a Grand Lodge, in its collective sovereignty, is just as much bound as any individual brother, to guide its action by that unselfish charity, which is the very seal of all Masonic virtue, which "*beareth all things; believeth all things; hopeth all things: endureth all things.*" It is a wound in a vital part of the body of Masonry, for a Grand Lodge to be quick and ready to take offence, and to cut off a large number of its Masonic brethren from intercourse upon slight occasion. So severe a remedy should not be employed except in cases where all else has been tried and failed, and the evil is of great magnitude; for surely it is no small matter that there should be terms of ill will and non-intercourse between the great representative bodies of a fraternity whose special claim is that they are united in a Mystic Tie, which reaches and thrills around the world.

We note with pleasure the dignified and conciliatory manner in which the unpleasant subject was referred, to both by the Grand Master in his address, and by the Board of General Purposes and the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, in their reports. The Report of the Committee on Correspondence is an interesting document, and gives a fraternal recognition of Pennsylvania. Naturally enough, much space and attention is bestowed upon the action of other Grand Lodges with respect to the trouble which has for some time existed between the Grand Lodge of Canada, and that of Quebec.

Your Committee are happy to be able to report that this trouble has at last been finally settled.

The history of the origin of these difficulties has been so often told, that we do not feel warranted in giving space to recount it now. It will be sufficient to our present purpose to say that, in 1869, a number of Lodges (all of them located in the Province of Quebec) holding warrants from the Grand Lodge of Canada, formed themselves into a Grand Lodge, called the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Province of Quebec. On the 25th of October of that year the Most Worshipful Grand

Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, by his edict, suspended from the rights and privileges of Freemasonry all the brethren engaged in that organization—and his action was sustained by the Grand Lodge of Canada, which held several meetings (including the Annual Communication of 1873, mentioned above,) at Montreal, in the Province of Quebec. Such of the Lodges in Quebec as adhered to the Grand Lodge of Canada were called Loyal Lodges. The others were punished for insubordination by an Edict of non-intercourse. In this dispute the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania took no part whatever. Being in correspondence and fraternal intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Canada, those relations were not disturbed; but the Grand Lodge of Quebec was not recognized by us, not from want of any kind feeling to the brethren of that jurisdiction, but rather from a desire to act with due deliberation, and in the hope that the time would soon come when all differences would be healed and harmony restored.

We are now in receipt of official documents from the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Canada, informing this Grand Lodge that a conference was held in Montreal, on the seventeenth day of January, 1874, between Committees of the respective Grand Lodges of Canada and Quebec, at which “a mutually satisfactory settlement of all the difficulties has been agreed on.” And thereupon, the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, acting under the authority of that Grand Lodge, has revoked the Edict of Suspension promulgated against the Brethren of Quebec, and also has revoked the Edict of Non-Intercourse as between the members of the Grand Lodges of Canada and Quebec—so that harmony and brotherly love again prevails.

For which happy reconciliation among brethren we are deeply grateful to the All-Powerful Disposer of Events, who rules in the hearts and consciences of men. We, therefore, report that there is now no obstacle to the recognition of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Quebec by this Grand Lodge—and we have appended to this report a resolution to that effect, the adoption of which we recommend.

The settlement agreed on is as follows :

“ WHEREAS, There has existed in the Province of Quebec for sometime, a serious Masonic dispute between the brethren hailing under the Grand Lodge of Quebec and those hailing under the Grand Lodge of Canada, to the scandal of Freemasonry and the serious injury of the Craft.

“ AND WHEREAS, The Grand Lodge of Canada did, at its Annual Communication held in the City of Ottawa, in 1871, agree to leave the settlement of all Masonic disputes to the brethren within the said Province of Quebec, binding itself in advance to give up and cede all the territory which it has occupied since 1855 in that part of Canada, constituting the Province of Quebec; make all just and proper financial settlements; remove all suspensions; and do all such things as may become necessary, so soon as it should receive notice that a settlement or compromise, mutually satisfactory, has been effected between the Masons residing in the Province of Quebec who have been and are now faithful to the said Grand Lodge on one side, and the members of the Grand Lodge of Quebec on the other, in such a manner as they may decide among themselves whilst acting in true Masonic spirit.

“ AND WHEREAS, The Grand Lodge of Quebec did at a Special Grand Communication, held in the month of January last in the City of Montreal, adopt a Resolution, requesting and authorizing the Grand Master of the said Grand Lodge to appoint a committee of seven, to take such steps as to them shall seem fit, whereby a termination may be put to the present unhappy and anomalous state of Masonry in this Province, with full powers to make a final adjustment of all differences between the Grand Lodge of Canada and this Grand Lodge: *Provided*, always, that the committee to be appointed by the Grand Lodge of Canada, or Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, shall possess equally full powers with the committee to be appointed under this resolution. And further, authorizing the said Grand Master to ratify and give effect to any agreement such united committee may arrive at, without further reference to the said Grand Lodge.

“ AND WHEREAS, The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada has, at the request of a meeting of representatives of the lodges working under the authority of the said Grand Lodge within the Province of Quebec, appointed a committee to meet a committee appointed by the Grand Master of the

Grand Lodge of Quebec, under the resolution hereinbefore recited, and the said committees are fully empowered by the action of their respective Grand Lodges to make such settlement of the Masonic differences existing in this Province, as may to them seem meet.

“AND WHEREAS, The committees, here assembled in conference, are fully impressed with the importance of restoring peace and harmony to the Craft within the Province of Quebec:

“*Therefore Resolved*, That with the view to the settlement of Masonic differences unhappily existing within the Province of Quebec, and with the object of restoring peace and harmony and brotherly love in the Craft, it is agreed to unite under the following terms and conditions, viz:

“1. That all acts done and Masonic rank conferred by the Grand Lodge of Canada and the Grand Lodge of Quebec respectively, be, for the purposes of this settlement, declared to have been legally done and conferred.

“2. That in view of the arrangement made between the Grand Lodge of Canada, and the Grand Lodges of England and Scotland, by which the former obtained the Masonic recognition of the latter on condition of the lodges then working under the said Grand Lodges of England and Scotland being permitted to continue their work, the said Grand Lodges agreeing not to grant any further warrants within the Province of Canada; and having regard to the fact that there still exist within the Province of Quebec three Lodges working under warrants from the Grand Lodge of England, and one Lodge working under that of Scotland, in conformity with this arrangement; it is agreed that while every effort shall be made to induce those Lodges to surrender their warrants, and come under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, the said Grand Lodge will recognize the arrangement hereinbefore recited, until the relations of those Lodges towards the Grand Lodge of Quebec shall have been finally decided upon, between the said Grand Lodges and the Grand Lodge of Quebec.

“3. That the Lodges within the Province of Quebec shall be re-numbered, according to the dates of their respective warrants, and for the purpose of such renumbering the question of priority of those Lodges holding originals and duplicates of the same warrants, shall be determined by lot, and in such case the place on the registry of the Grand Lodge shall be according to the date of the original and duplicate

warrants respectively, it being understood that the question of priority thus determined shall not establish any claim to property or funds, which is to be left to be settled, as fixed by the fifth condition, the ballot to be drawn forthwith by the chairmen of the respective committees.

“4. That so soon as the new warrants can thus be prepared by the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and so soon as the Grand Lodge of Canada, at its next Annual Communication shall, in accordance with the pledge contained in the resolution hereinbefore first recited, pass the formal resolution of recognition of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, ceding to the said Grand Lodge that part of the territory heretofore claimed by the said Grand Lodge of Canada, known as the Province of Quebec, subject to the obligations in the second clause of these conditions mentioned that they the lodges now working under the said Grand Lodge of Canada, within this Province, shall cease so to work, and shall become a part of the said Grand Lodge of Quebec.

“5. The settlement of all questions relating to property or finance between the Grand Lodge of Canada and subordinate Lodges working in that part of the jurisdiction hitherto claimed by the said Grand Lodge, known as the Province of Quebec, shall be left to the Board of General Purposes of the said Grand Lodge for the present year, and the settlement of all questions relating to funds or property in dispute between individual Lodges, shall be left to a Committee of three, one member each to be appointed by the Grand Masters of the the Grand Lodges of Canada and Quebec respectively, and the third by the brethren thus appointed; the decision of this Committee being in all cases final.”

It was a singular freak of fortune, that in the lot provided for by the third resolution—for the renumbering of five duplicate Lodges,—which was drawn immediately after the settlement had been agreed on; Quebec came first and Canada second each time.

COLORADO.

THE Thirteenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge was held at the City of Denver, beginning September 30th, 1873. Most Worshipful HENRY M. TELLER, Grand Master, in the East, and eighteen Lodges represented.

The Grand Lodge in a body proceeded to the late residence of their deceased Grand Orator, the Right Worshipful and Right Reverend GEORGE M. RANDALL, D. D., Past Grand Master of Massachusetts, and escorted his remains to the church, where they were deposited for a few hours; and subsequently went with them to the railroad depot, and placed them in a car to be conveyed to his native state. In the address of the Grand Master, and the eulogy pronounced by the Grand Orator, as well as in the resolutions of condolence which were adopted, the brethren of Colorado testified their appreciation of this illustrious brother, who had passed the last eight years of his life among them, and who had attained the highest honors as well in the fraternity as in the church of his choice. He was consecrated Bishop of the Episcopal Church in Colorado, December 28th, 1865. He died in Denver, September 28th, 1873.

We are tempted to select a few passages from the eulogy of Right Worshipful Bro. BROMWELL, Grand Orator, but will give but one. Speaking of Bro RANDALL, he said:

“When the lamp of life with him was burning low, as the dying taper by a sacred shrine, and the fluttering pulse grew feebler and fainter in the presence of the loving angel of death, the companion of his bosom read from the Holy writings, that Psalm of the wonderful singer of Israel, whose golden words can never perish among men or angels,—‘How amiable are Thy tabernacles, O Jehovah of Hosts!’ and the dying man of God put forth his quivering hands upon the heads of those most dear to him, kneeling by his side, and uttered this benediction:

“‘May the blessing of God the Father, the love of the Son, and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all, Amen.’

“These were the last words on earth of the Right Worshipful GEORGE M. RANDALL. * * Well has it been written ‘the chamber where the good man meets his fate is privileged beyond the common walks of life—quite on the verge of heaven.’ Well has it been said, ‘Death is the test of life, all else is vain.’ Well may we now say, there is nothing good but clarity, there is nothing mighty but truth, there is nothing great but God.”

There was no report on Correspondence, but a committee on that subject was appointed, with Right Worshipful Bro. PARMELEE, Grand Secretary, as chairman.

Most Worshipful WEBSTER D. ANTHONY, Deputy Grand Master, was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful EDWARD C. PARMELEE, was re-elected Grand Secretary.

There are 19 Lodges. 1,204 Members. Increase during the year, 2.

CONNECTICUT.

THE Grand Lodge held its Eighty-sixth Annual Communication at Masonic Hall, in the City of Hartford, beginning May 13th, 1874. Most Worshipful LUKE A. LOCKWOOD, Grand Master, in the East; one hundred and three Lodges represented.

The Annual Address of the Grand Master is extremely interesting. We do not refer to his very flattering mention of Pennsylvania hospitality on the occasion of the dedication of our Temple, when we were honored by the presence of himself and several others of the Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, although it must be confessed that the words of the Most Worshipful Bro. LOCKWOOD on that subject are most agreeable, and we quote them :

“The dedication of the Masonic Temple at Philadelphia, in September last was, the Masonic event of the century. * * * No description of this magnificent edifice, unequalled on this continent, will be attempted. The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and the Craft of that jurisdiction have our heartiest congratulations and warmest thanks.”

The portion of the Address to which we referred as being of much interest, was that in which the Grand Master speaks of the common neglect (much too common, we regret to say, in Pennsylvania,) to study and preserve the knowledge of the hidden meaning contained in our Masonic work and symbols. How many brethren there are among us who are ignorant of the significance of the Masonic emblems which meet us at every turn,—even brethren holding official stations of responsibility in their Lodges—carefully guarding the form, zealously anxious that no tittle or letter be lost, they allow the thing signified to become obscure and almost to be forgotten,—and thus opportunity is given for innovation and error.

One illustration of this given by Bro. LOCKWOOD is new to us, and probably will be to many brethren. We venture no opinion as to its correctness. It has, however, a title to respectful consideration, for its author is an industrious student and ripe scholar as well of profane literature as in Masonic tradition. Referring to the commonly received explanation of the point within the circle and parallel lines as referring to St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist, he says :

“This is one of the very oldest of symbols, and it is a great misfortune that the ruthless hands of ignorance should have obliterated its original significance in order to make it do homage to the pious longings of but a portion of the Masonic family. The circle is the astrological and afterward the astronomical symbol of the sun. As the sun was the source of physical light and became the object of worship, so its sign became the symbol of the source of intellectual and spiritual light, the only true and living God, the object of our labor in life and our reward hereafter.

“The point was the focus of light and the especial symbol of Deity. As man was made in the image of God, in a lesser

sense it also represents the individual brother. The parallels are the summer and winter solstices, the sun's stopping places, which the sun in its apparent yearly journeys north and south never passes nor goes beyond. They symbolize the lines of moral rectitude. The circle supports the Book to indicate its Divine origin and inspiration, and that it rests upon and is supported by Divinity itself.

"The period between the solstices embraces the implanting of the seed, youth; its ripening, manhood; and its garnering or gathering in, old age; and the whole symbol teaches us most impressively that while a brother, from his youth to old age, shall be as regular in his conduct as the Sun is in its course, on neither hand transgressing the lines of moral rectitude, it is impossible he should materially err. This was undoubtedly the original Masonic teaching of this important emblem, which we are instructed is to be found in every well-regulated and well-governed Lodge. Masons, however, professing Christianity, in view of the fact that the anniversaries of two of their patron Saints happen within a few days of the solstices, named the parallels St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist, respectively: because they believed that St. John the Baptist, as the forerunner, and St. John the Evangelist, as the historian of Christ, by precept and example recorded in the Holy Book, supported by inspiration, therein laid down and clearly defined the true lines of moral and spiritual rectitude."

The G. S. W. Brother JOHN L. DEVOTION submitted a report of his official acts to the Grand Lodge, in which he gives an account of his visit to Philadelphia on the occasion of the dedication of our new Temple, which, he says, "is universally conceded to be the largest and most imposing structure, consecrated to Masonry in the world." It is pleasant to know that Brother DEVOTION, (his good name reminds us of the Pilgrim's Progress, and might tempt a new Lodge to adopt it,) carried away with him the conviction that Philadelphia "was justly entitled to the proud appellation of the City of Brotherly Love."

The report of the Committee on Correspondence, by Right Worshipful Brother JOSEPH K. WHEELER, Grand Secretary, is an able review of nearly all the American Grand Lodges; under the head of Pennsylvania, he refers to a decision of Grand

Master PERKINS, to the effect that an E. A. must receive his succeeding degrees in the Lodge in which he was entered, unless he first resign his membership in that Lodge and regularly apply for, and be elected to, membership in another Lodge, which can then confer upon him the remaining degrees. It would seem that Brother WHEELER questions the soundness of this doctrine, for he says:

“We should infer from this, that in Pennsylvania any one who becomes an E. A. becomes a member of the Lodge. If so, he is entitled to all Lodge benefits. And this leads us to the inquiry: Does he take part in the business of the Lodge, and on what degree is the business transacted?”

To us the matter seems plain enough. We might answer our Connecticut brother's question by asking him one. He cannot complain of that; it is said that such is the fashion in his country. Is not an E. A. a brother? If so, he is a member entitled, not to *all* Lodge benefits, but to some of them. Women and minors may be citizens and entitled to protection as such; but it does not follow that they can vote.

We have added some further remarks on this decision in the review of the District of Columbia.

Right Worshipful Bro. WHEELER's report notices, favorably, the report of our predecessors on this committee, (Bro. DECHERT, Chairman,) and quotes from Grand Master PERKINS' annual address to the Grand Lodge as a well prepared, and excellent document.

Most Worshipful WILLIAM W. LEE, Deputy Grand Master was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful JOSEPH K. WHEELER, was re-elected Grand Secretary.

There are 109 Lodges. 14,943 members. Increase during the year 212.

DELAWARE.

THE Most Worshipful Grand Lodge held its Sixty-seventh Annual Communication in the Masonic Hall, Wilmington, June 27th, 1873. Most Worshipful JOHN C. McCABE, D. D., Grand Master in the East, and twenty Lodges represented.

The Grand Master's address announced the death of Past Grand Master WILLIAM T. READ, one of the oldest and most distinguished Masons in Delaware. He was the grand-son of GEORGE READ, (who signed the Declaration of Independence,) and had held many important positions in Church and State. His career in Masonry is thus summarized by Grand Master McCABE :

“Past Grand Master WILLIAM T. READ was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason in St. John's Lodge, No. 2, New Castle, in the year 1813, (sixty years ago,) November 18th. On the 24th of June 1822, he was installed Master of the Lodge in which he was raised to the Master's Degree, * * succeeding his father GEORGE READ in the occupancy of the Oriental Chair. Passing through the successive offices in the in the Grand Lodge of Grand Secretary, Grand Junior Warden and Grand Senior Warden, he was elected Grand Master of Masons in the State of Delaware, June 27th, 1850, and for three years discharged the duties of his high office with fidelity, fortitude and zeal.”

He died January 27th, 1873, aged eighty-one.

The Grand Master informed the Grand Lodge of his intention to remove from the State, and declined a re-election. The Grand Lodge unanimously concurred in the report of a committee, expressing deep regret that they were about to lose “so valuable a brother, so true a Mason, and so eloquent an advocate of the grand principles of our order.”

By the New Constitution of the Grand Lodge, which was announced as having been ratified and adopted, the time of the Regular Annual Communication was changed to the first Wednesday of October.

In consequence of which, the Grand Lodge met on October 1st, 1873, in Wilmington. Right Worshipful C. J. HALL, Deputy Grand Master, in the East, and thirteen Lodges represented. At the session on the following day Most Worshipful Grand Master McCABE presided.

The Grand Master in his valedictory address, spoke of his being present, with his grand officers, "at the Dedication by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, of the most magnificent Masonic Temple in the world;" and begged to record his thanks to our Grand Master and the other Grand Officers for their courteous reception, and cordial hospitalities on that occasion.

The Report of the Committee on Correspondence, Brother J. THOMAS BUDD, Chairman, was very brief, as they explained it, "in view of the facts, that to prepare a report worthy of the elegant literary feast furnished your committee, would necessitate an expense of publication very much in excess of what our finances would permit."

It may seem a hypercriticism, but we would like to suggest an inquiry as to the propriety of a word which we find frequently used in many jurisdictions, (our own included,) in the same sense as in Brother BUDD's report. Speaking of the spirit of Freemasonry, he calls it "the genius of our noble order." Is Masonry, as represented by the three Symbolic Degrees, *an Order*? There are the Orders of Knighthood, and other associations called Orders, and there are what Mother Church, calls Holy Orders—that we understand; but we always supposed that the proper appellation of the Society of Freemasons was Fraternity.

Most Worshipful JOHN P. ALLMOND, Grand Secretary, was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful WILLIAM S. HAYES, was elected Grand Secretary.

There are 21 Lodges. 1,112 members. Decrease 1.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

THE Proceedings of the Grand Lodge for 1873, (including a Communication on January 11th, 1874), form a substantial volume, containing altogether the records of eight meetings, four being "stated," and four "special," all held in Washington City.

It will be remembered by the Grand Lodge that our Right Worshipful Brother DAVID C. SKERRETT, Past Grand Master of Pennsylvania, died in Washington City on Sunday, January 26th, 1873. A Special Communication of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia was convened on the 29th January, 1873, at the Masonic Temple, in Washington City, to pay honor to his memory. The Most Worshipful CHARLES F. STANSBURY, Grand Master, in the Chair, and the Grand Officers, and Representatives and Past Masters from thirteen Lodges being present.

The Grand Master stated the purpose for which he had called the Grand Lodge together, and spoke as follows :

"I have deemed this attention due not less to the distinguished Brother who has passed away in our midst, than as an act of comity towards the important jurisdiction over which he formerly presided, for two years, as Grand Master, and which he served in many other important Masonic offices.

"Dr. SKERRETT was born in the City of Philadelphia, August 6th, 1796, graduated in medicine at the University of Pennsylvania in 1818, and practiced his profession with success till within a few years of his death.

"I have not been able to ascertain the date at which he was made a Mason, but know that he had been an active, zealous and influential member of the Order for many years. He was Past Master of Lodge No. 3, of Philadelphia; P.: H.: Priest of Jerusalem R.: A.: Chapter, No. 3, and a member of St. John's Commandery of Knights Templars. He also filled the office of M.: E.: G.: H.: Priest of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, for the Masonic year ending St. John's Day, 1851, and the office of Grand Master of Masons of Pennsylvania, for the

two years ending St. John's Day, 1864, being the 34th on the list of Grand Masters of that jurisdiction. He performed, also, the duties of nearly every official position known to the Order. He was re-elected, a few days before his death, to the Chairmanship of the Trustees of the Permanent Fund of Lodge No. 3, of which he was formerly Master.

"This is not the appropriate occasion to pay the tribute to his memory demanded by his services and worth. We have now the practical duty of taking our proper part in the arrangements for his funeral.

"As soon as I heard of his death, I wrote to my friend and M.: W.: Brother S. C. PERKINS, the present Grand Master of Pennsylvania, informing him of my intention to call the Grand Lodge together, and requesting to be informed of the arrangements contemplated by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. In response, I received a telegram this afternoon, informing me the funeral will take place on Friday, at 1.30 o'clock, on the arrival of the 8 a. m. train, from this city, with the remains. The officers of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and the officers and members of Lodge No. 3, will attend. A committee will be sent to this city to accompany the remains, which will leave here on Friday morning at eight o'clock, in a special car provided by the rail road authorities, at the request of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

"I suggest the appointment of a committee on the part of this Grand Lodge, to accompany the remains of our distinguished and venerated brother to Philadelphia, and to represent this jurisdiction at the funeral ceremonies in that city."

On motion, a committee, consisting of Bros. I. S. TICHENOR, I. L. JOHNSON, and P. S. CRAIG, was appointed to accompany the remains of Past Grand Master SKERRETT to Philadelphia.

At the Semi-Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, held on May 14th, 1873, this Committee reported their Proceedings: That they accompanied the remains of Past Grand Master SKERRETT to Philadelphia, on January 31st, 1873, in company with the Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden and the Right Worshipful Grand Marshal of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and attended the funeral services at St. Stephen's Church, and the Masonic Rites at Laurel Hill Cemetery, Grand Master SAMUEL C. PERKINS officiating. They speak courteously of the hospitalities they received from

Grand Master PERKINS and others, and from Lodge No. 3, of which Past Grand Master SKERRETT was a Past Master.

Their report as well as the letter-of-thanks from Grand Master PERKINS to Grand Master STANSBURY, was ordered to be spread upon the minutes of the Grand Lodge.

The action of our Brethren of the District of Columbia on this sad occasion, was so kind, courteous, and truly fraternal, that our hearts warm towards them as the circumstances are recalled to memory by reading the Minutes of their Proceedings.

The Annual Communication was held November 12th, 1873. Most Worshipful C. F. STANSBURY, Grand Master, presiding, and nineteen Lodges being represented.

The address of the Grand Master is eloquent and sensible. He refers to the subject of "mixed funerals" at some length, having become involved in a correspondence with the Grand Master of Odd-Fellows on that subject. Subsequently Grand Master STANSBURY, wishing to bring the whole subject to a definite conclusion, and wisely determining to establish a final and inflexible rule for the government of Subordinate Lodges on such occasions, addressed a letter to every Grand Master in the country inquiring what, if any, agreement or regulation existed as to the conduct of funerals where the deceased was a member of the Fraternity and of some other society: and what was the custom on such occasions. He received answers from twenty-seven jurisdictions, almost "uniform in declaring that there exists no regulation or agreement on the subject: but that *the Masonic Fraternity always assumes exclusive control when it takes any part in the burial of a brother, and performs its ceremony last*, where other associations participate in the funeral rites." The subject was referred to a committee, who, at the subsequent Communication of January 14th, 1874, presented their report, fully discussing the matter from the Masonic point of view, and concluding with the following resolution, which was adopted, after some discussion:

“*Resolved*, That in the burial of a deceased brother by a Masonic Lodge, or in the performance of other Masonic labor in public, the control by the Lodge must be absolute; and while the Lodge is exercising that control, no non-masonic organization shall be permitted to participate.”

We think the rule as stated by the Grand Master is strict enough to preserve all the proper claims of the Fraternity. There can be no reason why the Worshipful Master of a Lodge, *rightfully having exclusive control* of the burial services, should not allow other organizations to officially show their respect for their deceased member. This could certainly be done without their taking part in any Masonic work.

It is a subject of much interest, as the occasions are of frequent occurrence, and we are glad to see that a uniform practice can be established in nearly all the American jurisdictions.

We return to the Grand Masters address to notice his kind allusion to the dedication of our Temple, at which he was present, (with several of his Grand Officers,) and made an eloquent response to the first toast at the banquet which closed that memorable day. He concludes his remarks on that subject as follows:

“It would be difficult to overstate the gratification which we derived from meeting on this occasion the most distinguished members of our Fraternity from every quarter, men whose names are like household words among us, and whose services in the cause, will embalm their memory long after they have resigned the working tools forever. To the Grand Master of Pennsylvania, Brother SAMUEL C. PERKINS, our thanks are due for his many acts of courtesy and kindness, and I have pleasure in adding my testimony to the universal tribute of praise for the ability, dignity and urbanity with which he performed every duty which the occasion devolved upon him.”

At the Annual Communication, Most Worshipful CHARLES F. STANSBURY, was re-elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful WILLIAM A. YATES, re-elected Grand Secretary.

The Report of the Committee on Correspondence, by Bro. W. R. SINGLETON, is a document of huge proportions. He says, that many pages originally prepared, were expunged upon revision, only those relating to the most important matters being retained. It certainly is, as it stands, a very complete review of the condition of Masonry at the time of its date. What it was, before it was pruned, is an appalling conjecture. It is a report prepared evidently by a careful and experienced hand, and truly, we can agree with our brother, that we cannot see where we would willingly reduce it to any great extent.

In reviewing Pennsylvania for 1872, the decision of Grand Master PERKINS, which we have mentioned under the head of "Connecticut," is called in question. The decision can be found in the Abstract of Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania for 1872, pages 23-4.

The case proposed was this :

"Many of the Lodges in the interior of Pennsylvania are in the habit of conferring degrees at the request of a Lodge wherein the applicant has received the first degree :

"A person having received the E. A. degree in a Lodge in this jurisdiction, can any other Lodge confer the remaining degrees upon him, on a request for such purpose being made by the Lodge which initiated him, and of which the applicant is still a member?"

DECISION.

"There is no authority in the Regulations of the Grand Lodge for one Lodge to confer degrees on members of another Lodge. An E. A. must receive the degrees of F. C. and M. M. in the Lodge in which he was entered, unless he first resign his membership in that Lodge, and regularly apply for and be elected to membership in another Lodge, which can then confer upon him the remaining degrees. The same rule must govern a F. C. Mason. A Lodge does not obtain authority to confer degrees on a member of another Lodge by the request of that Lodge."

Our experience is not great in these matters, and we cannot point to a "well-established precedent for this decision," but we fail to see why it is not sound *on principle*. The Grand Master evidently assumed that there is no unwritten law of Masonry which would authorize a Lodge to work on material which does not belong to it, at the request of any one; for when he says, there is no regulation of the Grand Lodge to that effect, he means that without such regulation the authority does not exist. In the last clause of the decision that doctrine is more clearly enunciated. It is here that the error must be found, if at all, for the remaining part of the decision follows logically from these premises. If a Lodge can lawfully advance its own members only, (as in Pennsylvania,) it is clear that an E. A. must be a member of the Lodge in which he receives the F. C. and M. M. degrees. We do not mean to argue that a regulation of the Grand Lodge, conferring such authority upon subordinate Lodges would not, under proper restrictions, be entirely right and wise. We only say, that without some *positive grant* of authority, the power does not exist.

We must respectfully differ from those who contend "that an E. A. or F. C. cannot be dimitted, but must be a completed Mason by taking these degrees before he can be a member, or be dismissed." That an E. A. in his degree, is as much a member of his Lodge as a M. M. in his degree, is, we think, well settled by ancient usage. We can refer to Brother SINGLETON's own report for testimony on this point. On page 31 of his report, in his review of Canada, he says:

"This Grand Lodge keeps up the old Masonic Landmark, to transact its business in the Entered Apprentice Lodge; where legitimately only can be found the Treasurer and Secretary, which officers have no business in the F.: C's.: or M.: M's.: Lodge. In the United States all the Grand Lodges since 1843, have changed from the old system, and now hold Lodges on the 1st, 2d and 3d *degrees* of Masonry. Originally they were called Lodges of E.: A.:, F.: C.:, and M.: M.:, which is the true title, and we have never surrendered this point, nor consented to the *sin* and *iniquity* perpetrated by

the Master Masons in snatching from the E.: A.: and F.: C.: all the rights to which they had been entitled from time immemorial,'

There are many Masons in Pennsylvania, (and not old men yet,) who can remember when the same custom prevailed here.

As the law stands now, (certainly in this jurisdiction,) an E. A. pays dues, has his place in the Lodge ceremonies, public and private, as arranged in authorized forms; he may be tried on charges, punished and expelled. Why then is he not a member of the Lodge? His lack of advancement may keep him from participating in certain privileges and franchises which are reserved to those of higher degree, but, if he stand clear on the books of the Lodge, and be without reproach, what good reason can there be why he should not be allowed to resign and get his dimit according to his degree? We can see none.

We regret that want of space prevents us from reviewing the other portions of Brother SINGLETON's report, which is full of valuable knowledge both of Masonic law and history.

There are 20 Lodges. 2,623 Members. Increase 102.

FLORIDA.

THE Most Worshipful Grand Lodge held its Forty-fifth Annual Communication at Jacksonville, beginning January 13th, 1874. Most Worshipful ALBERT J. RUSSELL, Grand Master, in the East; and thirty-eight Lodges represented.

The address of the Grand Master is confined mainly to matters of local interest. Among other things, he says:

"I have received the charter and effects of JEFF. DAVIS LODGE, No. 7, and they are now in the hands of the Grand Secretary. I cannot refrain from congratulating the Grand Lodge upon this event. No matter how much a people may love their political chieftains, their names should not be intimately associated with Masonry, especially when they themselves are not eminently connected with Masonry."

Among the decisions we find this :

"A brother writes: How is a brother to be reinstated, when suspended for non-payment of Lodge dues ?

"*Answer.*—Whenever the brother pays up his arrears, there being no other charges against him, *the act of paying reinstates him.*"

The italics are ours. Truly the brethren in Florida are easy with their delinquents. Such a law would hardly be likely to keep the Lodge Treasury full. It is equivalent to saying, pay when you like, brethren. A Mason who is too poor to pay, should have the debt forgiven him. One who is too negligent, or cares so little for his privilege as to let himself be suspended, ought to be subjected to a vote of the Lodge, to determine whether he shall get back or not. An illustration of the result to be expected from such a lenient regulation occurred at the same communication of the Grand Lodge, where the Grand Lodge dues of a subordinate Lodge for 1872 were remitted, and the time of paying those for 1873 was extended on the promise of the Worshipful Master to use every exertion *to collect arrearages from delinquents.*

The report of the Committee on Education shows that the brethren are doing much to assist the orphans of deceased Master Masons in getting an education—a form of charity which is certainly of the greatest value to the recipients.

The report of the Committee on Correspondence is very brief and general. The Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania for 1872, were received. The committee promise "to do better next time."

Most Worshipful ALBERT J. RUSSELL, Grand Master and Right Worshipful DEWITT C. DAWKINS, Grand Secretary, were both re-elected.

There are 53 Lodges. 1,700 Members. Decrease, 39.

GEORGIA.

THE Grand Lodge held its Annual Communication in the New Grand Lodge Hall, in the City of Macon, beginning on Tuesday, October 28th, 1873. Most Worshipful SAMUEL D. IRVIN, Grand Master, in the Oriental Chair, and a large number of Past Masters and representatives from two hundred and thirty-seven Lodges being present.

The first business was the dedication of the Grand Lodge Hall which was done by the Grand Master, assisted by the Grand Officers, according to ancient usage.

The Annual Address of the Grand Master is eloquent and able. He congratulates the Grand Lodge that they have a "local habitation," as well as a name,—“a building whose foundation is solid, whose structure is good and substantial, whose exterior is at least creditable, and whose internal arrangements are well suited to the purposes intended.” The bonds which were issued by the Grand Lodge to enable it to pay for the Hall were all taken as soon as it was known that they were upon the market, and after all had been sold, the demand continued so that it would have been easy to dispose of twice the amount authorized.

The Grand Master, who was present at the dedication of our new Temple, gives the brethren a vivid description of the grand procession which preceded the ceremonies in which he took part. He says :

“I brought away with me many pleasant memories. I had no reason to complain of my treatment as your representative while there: on the contrary, I found Pennsylvania Masons to be Masons indeed; warm-hearted, sociable, generous and hospitable.”

We sincerely regret that our distinguished brother should have had any, even the slightest drawback to his entire enjoyment on that day. We quote what he says as to his position in the line. It is put so pleasantly and fraternally as to make us sorry he had occasion for it.

“Georgia is one of the oldest Grand Lodges in the Union. I thought that had been conceded to her everywhere, and that none claimed to rank her as to age, except Massachusetts, and she only by a year or two. Yet in forming the procession, by some mistake or oversight, Georgia was ranked, according to the Grand Marshal's programme, by New Jersey, and next above New Hampshire. I myself cared nothing about it, as the arrangement threw me into the company of of good, clever, genial and sociable companions from both these states, and I only mention the matter in this connection in order that I may put Georgia right, and to induce our Pennsylvania brethren to read up and see if our claim as to age is not well-founded.”

We leave the question of seniority to be settled by the historians of the Craft. Our brethren of Kansas and of Nova Scotia indicate their opinion in tables appended to their Proceedings of 1873-4, bringing Georgia and New Jersey *two days* apart!

The committee on this portion of the Grand Master's address reported the following resolution, which was adopted. It gives us pleasure to receive the fraternal greetings of our brethren, and to spread them before the Craft in this jurisdiction.

“*Resolved*, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge are hereby tendered to the brethren of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania for the courtesies extended to us in the person of our Grand Master.”

We notice that there was present, at this Communication, Worshipful Past Master Bro. JAMES M. SMITH, Governor of the State of Georgia.

The report of the Committee on Returns of Lodges brings to light a not uncommon error which conveys a valuable lesson to all; that of multiplying the number of Lodges with undue haste, and thereby really sapping the strength of the Fraternity, while apparently showing a rapid growth in its numbers. They say:

“These tables disclose the melancholy fact that our Institution is waning in Georgia. This evil was predicted by the fathers of our Order when the missionary spirit of Masonry assumed an enthusiasm (bordering upon fanaticism,) that demanded a Lodge to be established at nearly every cross-road in Georgia. In order that these Lodges should be self-sustaining, members were admitted without due precaution, and the result is—Masons who know as little of our principles as they do of the Koran, and are as indifferent to their obligations as if they were written on water. The decrease in initiations is mainly due to the above cause, because such material as would make perfect ashlar are unwilling to be placed with the irregular and angular stones that appear in nearly all our Temples.”

These are words of wisdom; not only do they warn those in authority to be circumspect, and not to put temptation in the way of brethren, by warranting a Lodge which has forthwith to begin a struggle for existence; but to every individual brother who has the welfare of his own Lodge at heart they teach a truth that should not be unheeded. If you want to get and keep good men in your Lodge, you must keep bad ones out. However unfair it is to judge of Masonry by the conduct of some of its members, yet it is the only certain test which outsiders can apply. *They know no other*, and that they do so judge, daily experience teaches us unerringly. That these observations are trite, we know well—but they can never be out of place. A free and wholesome use of the black ball is the only safe-guard.

In the report of the Committee on Correspondence, by Right Worshipful J. EMMETT BLACKSHEAR, Pennsylvania is not reviewed, our "Proceedings" not having been received. We join our brother in his regret at their absence. His report on those received is a model, interspersed with pleasant bits of original poetry, and full of sound and thoughtful reflections.

Most Worshipful SAMUEL D. IRVIN, Grand Master, and Right Worshipful J. EMMETT BLACKSHEAR, Grand Secretary, were both re-elected.

There are 280 Lodges. 15,402 Members. Increase during the year, 388.

The Grand Lodge held an Emergent Communication March 4, 1874, to undo an act of great injustice to a worthy brother. At the Annual Commuication preceding, the committee on Grievances and Appeals reported that charges had been presented against this brother for unmasonic conduct, and recommended that he should be expelled from the Fraternity. The report was adopted without remark. The first knowledge the brother had of this action was *from reading the printed proceedings!!* At the time he was expelled he was Junior Warden of his Lodge, and he had been subsequently elected and installed Worshipful Master. *No charges had ever been preferred against him*, and there was no cause for any. The whole matter had been *an unaccountable mistake*.

Everything was done by the Grand Lodge that could be done to right the wronged brother and atone for the error.

IDAHO.

THE Sixth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Idaho Territory was held in Boise City, beginning on Monday, December 8th, 1873. Most Worshipful JOHN KENNALLY, Grand Master, presiding, and eight Lodges represented.

The Grand Master's annual address gives an account of his official acts and decisions during the year, and describes particularly the efforts made to break up "saloon-keeping" by Masons, under a former resolution of the Grand Lodge, which proved ineffectual. On the recommendation of the Grand Master, the resolution was reseeded by the Grand Lodge, and the matter left to be regulated by the Municipal Law and the Landmarks of Masonry.

There is no report on Correspondence.

A singular resolution was offered by the Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer, JAMES W. GRIFFIN, and, on motion—*indefinitely postponed*:

"*Resolved*, That Bro. J. L. HALL be instructed to procure of Bro. C. B. PLUMMER, the Ritualic (*sic*) work, both unwritten and written, and exemplify the same at the next annual session of the Grand Lodge."

We are happy to say that we do not comprehend what was intended by this proposal. Curious to see who C. B. PLUMMER is, we examined the names of all the officers and members of all the Lodges, as given in their returns, and he is not there. He must, therefore, have been a visitor. Bro. HALL is the Grand Chaplain.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master was reelected and Right Worshipful JOS. PINKHAM, appointed Grand Secretary.

There are 8 Lodges. 276 Members. Increase, 3.

ILLINOIS.

THE Most Worshipful Grand Lodge met in its Thirty-third Annual Communication at McCORMICK'S HALL, Chicago, beginning on Tuesday, October 7th, 1873. Most Worshipful JAMES A. HAWLEY, Grand Master, in the Chair, and five hundred and eighty-two Lodges being represented.

The annual address of the Grand Master is sensible and devoted almost entirely to business. He reports that the year has been an uneventful one, and says:

“Peace, harmony and prosperity as a rule have prevailed among the Craft in all parts of the State; and considering the large number of Lodges in this jurisdiction, there have been but few calls upon me in my official capacity for interference, and these have for the most part been happily adjusted without using extreme measures. Thus while we have been so favorably dealt with as Masons; we have, as a people, been abundantly blessed in basket and store, and have every reason, as it is our bounden duty so to do, to thank GOD, “from whom all blessings flow,” with sincere and devout hearts.”

The whole Proceedings of the Grand Lodge witness the truth of these remarks of the Grand Master, and show throughout the strength, vigour and prosperity of the Fraternity in Illinois.

No one can read the report of the Proceedings without noticing the regularity, order and correctness with which they were conducted, and there was evident justice in the Resolution adopted just before the Grand Lodge closed its session of three days:

“That the thanks of this Grand Lodge are due to *all its committees*, who have so ably and faithfully discharged their arduous duties, and *thereby so signally facilitated our proceedings.*”

A beautiful Past Grand Master's jewel, of solid gold, studded with diamonds, and valued at one thousand dollars, was presented to the Most Worshipful Brother DEWITT C. CREGIER, the late Grand Master, in appreciation of his services to the Grand Lodge while Grand Master. Well earned and worthily worn.

A proposed new code of by-laws for the Grand Lodge (to be finally acted on at the Communication in October, 1874,) was discussed at length. It appears as an appendix to the Proceedings. Many of the changes are made necessary by the rapid growth and great increase in the number of the Lodges and brethren in the jurisdiction. We notice that it is proposed to have a Committee of Masonic Correspondence to consist of only *one* member.

From the Report of the Committee on Lodges, U. D., we take this interesting piece of information :

"In New York there are 683 Lodges; average membership, 117				
" Pennsylvania	"	501	"	70
" Massachusetts	"	201	"	120
" Rhode Island	"	25	"	145
" Connecticut	"	105	"	144
" Maine	"	156	"	105

In all New England average membership, 109.

In Illinois there are 676 Lodges; average membership, 55."

In the long and able Report of the Committee on Correspondence by Right Worshipful JOSEPH ROBBINS, Senior Grand Warden, its chairman, our Proceedings for 1872, receive kind notice. The decision of Grand Master PERKINS, which we have already stated in the review of "District of Columbia," is given, with the remark: "It will be observed that the Pennsylvania practice, in this respect, differs from that which elsewhere almost universally obtains."

Grand Master PERKINS's annual address is mentioned with fraternal appreciation, as having "much of the traditional

eloquence and dignity that dwells around the grand East of Pennsylvania, and the incisiveness of true executive ability."

Brother ROBBINS has also a kind word for Brother HENRY M. DECHERT's Report on Correspondence presented in 1872. Referring to Brother DECHERT's determination to abstain "from every appearance of hostile criticism of local decisions and modes of operation," Brother ROBBINS says:

"It is because of this mutual duty" (to defend and maintain the Ancient Usages and Landmarks) "resting upon us all in common, that we think Pennsylvania ought to let the weight of her ability be felt in the discussions out of which is to come, if from any source, harmony of opinion as to what constitute the 'Ancient Usages and Land Marks of the Fraternity.'"

Appended to the report we find a statistical table of real value, and which must have cost its compiler Brother JOHN F. BURRILL, Deputy Grand Secretary, much time and Labor. Brother ROBBINS acknowledges the favor as follows:

"For the elaborate statistical table given herewith, credit is due to the Deputy Grand Secretary, Worshipful JOHN F. BURRILL, whose proposition to relieve us of the labor of its preparation we had at least three good reasons for accepting most gratefully: We knew it would be correct; we were glad to escape the labor; and we doubted if our equanimity would stand the severe test imposed by those Grand Secretaries who fail to give statistics and footings. They have proved too much even for the imperturbable good nature of Brother BURRILL, and were we to hunt round for the most pointed words in the vernacular to throw at these offenders, we imagine he would feel much as did the lady, vainly attempting to catch a train as it was leaving the station, who gave an approving, 'thank you, sir,' to a gentleman just ahead of her, who on giving up the chase, saluted the departing train with a few expletives more emphatic than eloquent."

As Brother BURRILL is now Grand Secretary, he, of course, will take warning, and "govern himself accordingly."

Most Worshipful JAMES A. HAWLEY was re-elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful JOHN F. BURRILL was elected Grand Secretary.

There are 675 Lodges. 35,583 members. Increase, 607.

INDIANA.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge held its Fifty-seventh Annual Communication in the Grand Masonic Hall, Indianapolis, beginning Tuesday, May 26th, 1874. Most Worshipful CHRISTIAN FETTA, Grand Master, presiding, and a large number of Lodges being represented.

The Grand Master submitted his annual address in which, besides the usual summary of the business of the year, several matters important to the Craft are discussed in a plain and sensible manner.

In referring to an evil, which has received general notice in many jurisdictions—that of too hastily multiplying the number of subordinate Lodges without first considering how they are to support themselves, except by withdrawing necessary means from those already in existence—the Grand Master gives some interesting statistics of the growth of the Fraternity in Indiana. He says:

“In the year 1850, we had one hundred and twelve Lodges, with an average membership of twenty-eight per Lodge. In the year 1860, we had two hundred and sixty-nine Lodges, with an average membership of thirty-six per Lodge. In the year 1870, we find in four hundred and twenty-one Lodges an average membership of fifty-five per Lodge. In 1873, in the four hundred and sixty-seven Lodges at work in this jurisdiction, we have an average membership of over fifty-seven per Lodge. Nor is this all. While the increase of membership has been greater than that of Lodges, the increase of the Fraternity as per population has been equally great. In the year

1850, we find one member to every three hundred and fifteen of the population. In the year 1860, we have one member to every one hundred and thirty-nine of the population. In the year 1870, we have one member to every seventy-two of the population. The rapid increase, then, is based upon the favorable opinion the people entertain of the Masonic Institutions."

Certainly these figures show great prosperity in the Fraternity.

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals reported quite a number of interesting cases. Many of them arose out of business transactions not connected with Masonry and were properly sent back by the committee for amended action by the Lodge. We select a few: A Lodge adopted a resolution asking a member to resign his position as guardian of certain minors. It seems that nothing was done except to make the request contained in the resolution. The member appealed and asked the Grand Lodge to order the Lodge to strike the resolution from their record. The committee decided not to interfere.

In another case a brother was expelled from his Lodge on a charge of defrauding another who had gone his security, by leaving him pay the debt. The evidence showed that the appellant was not insolvent when he procured the other to become security for him. Afterwards he failed and the surety had the debt to pay. The committee very properly decided that it was no crime to be unfortunate, and set aside the sentence of expulsion.

Another case, somewhat similar, was the appeal of a brother who was expelled on the charge of leaving the town in which he resided "while owing over two hundred dollars, without making any provision for the payment thereof." And also for receiving Masonic charity and not making a true return thereof. The committee reported that the only crime the brother had been guilty of was that of being poor, he having paid his debts so far as he was able. Nothing was done to the Lodge for taking such action. It was simply reversed.

We refer to one more case, which, we presume, was decided in accordance with the Grand Lodge regulations. A brother was charged "with selling intoxicating liquors, to be used as a beverage," found guilty and indefinitely suspended. The committee reported the proceedings in proper form and the charge fully sustained—and the action of the Lodge was affirmed. If it is wrong to sell liquor, is it wrong to buy it or drink it? Certainly to stop one, would effectually put an end to the other, if it could be done. Selling cannot be done unless there be a buyer; it is an act in which *two* must take part, and if wrong for one it is wrong for both. That it is wrong to use strong drink *to excess* is clearly the teachings of the Ancient Charges. Temperance is one of the cardinal virtues. But where is it taught that total-abstinence is enjoined by Freemasonry? A regulation forbidding the Craft to use strong drink at all and punishing those who do so, would make no distinction between a temperate man and an habitual drunkard; yet one may be a worthy member of society and the other a curse and disgrace. An objection similar in principle may be made to a regulation totally prohibiting men from selling intoxicating liquor. No distinction is preserved between one who pursues such a calling in an orderly and respectable manner without violating law or good order, as an inn-keeper or restaurateur, and one who keeps a disreputable and disorderly house, and thus brings shame on all connected with him. No doubt the vice of drunkenness is very prevalent, and calls loudly on all good men to join in an effort to reform: but that cannot be a sufficient reason for importing into Free Masonry an entirely novel feature, which it never before possessed, and turning a Masonic Lodge into a Total Abstinence Society.

The Report of the Committee on Correspondence by Right Worshipful Brother DANIEL McDONALD, (Senior Grand Warden,) its Chairman, is a well-considered review of the Proceedings of thirty-nine Grand Lodges; Pennsylvania not being among the number. Our slender volume for 1873, did not come to hand from the press until after Bro. McDONALD's report has been concluded.

Most Worshipful LUCIEN A. FOOTE was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful JOHN M. BRAMWELL was re-elected Grand Secretary.

There are 468 Lodges; (of which 37 are U. D.) with 26,684 members. An increase of 468.

IOWA.

A VERY handsomely printed and substantial volume comes to us, containing the Proceedings of the Craft in this Jurisdiction. As a frontispiece it has (by resolution of the Grand Lodge,) a portrait on steel of Brother THEODORE SCHREINER, Grand Tyler: a memoir of this faithful brother forms an appendix.

The Thirty-first Annual Session of the Grand Lodge was held in Moore's Opera House, Des Moines, beginning on Tuesday June 2, 1874. Most Worshipful JOSEPH CHAPMAN, Grand Master, presiding, and 230 Lodges being represented.

The address of the Grand Master is a thoughtful and eloquent performance, which well repays perusal. He reports the year just ended as one of prosperity to the Craft; indeed, it has been forced upon him that the rapid growth of the Fraternity has been such as to make a change in the management of its affairs in Iowa, a matter of necessity, and he suggests the districting of the state and the appointment of District Deputy Grand Masters as a means of relieving the Grand Master of some of his labors.

A question is suggested by the Grand Master as to how far a Lodge may go in punishing a brother for non-payment of Lodge dues, (and he presents the written opinion of the Grand Secretary, a most experienced, learned brother, on that point.) He

indicates his opinion that a man may be a Mason and entitled to all the privileges, (and they are many,) of a brother, without being a member of any Lodge, or paying dues anywhere. When he joins a Lodge he assumes new duties towards that Lodge (payment of dues being one,) and acquires new privileges as a member of that Lodge. When he violates his duty *as a member*, by non-payment of dues, he can be deprived of his privileges as a *member*. But no Lodge can lawfully go further and deprive him of his rights as a brother, unless he goes beyond and violates his duty as a Mason.

Without presuming to enter into controversy with our brethren, we offer the suggestion that a member of a Lodge who violates his obligations *as a member* by not paying the stated tax which he agreed to pay, *wrongs his Lodge* and by that very act commits a breach of duty not as a member only, but equally as a Mason also. And if that be true, then it is certainly within the lawful power of the Lodge to punish him as a Mason, beyond severing his connection as a member: and the only question which remains, is—How severely *is it expedient* to punish the delinquent? The answer to this will naturally be different in different jurisdictions, and there is, perhaps, no subject upon which Grand Lodge regulations are wider apart. But being only a question of *expediency*, it is entirely safe to leave each authority to settle it without “foreign interference.”

The Grand Master mentions the dedication of our Temple and regrets that he was unable to be present. He says:

“The Craft in Iowa was, however, represented by our Grand Secretary, who is generally at the proper time in the right place, and may speak of what he saw, unless, like the Queen of Sheba, he was too dazzled to see the half.”

Among the decisions, many of which are of interest, we select two for quotation, and give them (in brief) with the remarks of the Committee to which they were referred.

VI.—“A Masonic Lodge is not a justice’s court for the collection of debts, whether of honor, note of hand, or book accounts. * * * There seems to be a growing tendency to invoke Masonic aid in such cases—a great and growing evil which should be discountenanced. * * * Let the case alone. Let the brothers, if they will ‘appeal unto Cæsar,’ abide the decision of their peers, and when the result is attained, meet as brothers upon the checkered floor.”

This decision is so well reviewed by the Committee that we can add nothing. They say:

“In this decision the Grand Master has most timely declared that a Masonic Lodge shall not be prostituted to be a common justice’s court for the ‘collection of debts’ where the penurious or vindictive brother may seek to enforce his claim, or vent his spite ‘without money or without price.’ The experience of your committee as Grand Officers, or in serving upon the Committee on Appeals, has long since convinced them that there is a large class of cases which annually come before the Grand Lodge for review which should never have been entertained by the Lodges. His order to throw out of court such a case, clearly meets our approval. There are times and cases which cannot be satisfactorily determined in a Lodge when the brethren, ‘must (say the old charges) carry on their process or law-suit without wrath or rancor.’ When they occur, we say with the poet law-giver—

“Do as adversaries in law, strive mightily,
But eat and drink as friends,” (brothers.)

“IX. *Question*—A brother in arrears for dues one year was summoned to appear, &c. * * He appeared and stated that his health had failed, so he had to relinquish his profession, (that of the ministry,) that by reason of sickness he had not been able to support his family without some assistance, and asked that his dues be remitted. *The Lodge refused, and required him to give his note to the Lodge for the amount due.* Is this proper action in such a case?

“*Answer*.—Timothy, if not a Mason, a very good man, says: ‘But if any provide not for his own, and especially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith and is worse than an infidel.’

‘O, poor charity!
Thou art seldom found in scarlet.’

“The taking of the brother’s note was wrong, and is forbidden by the spirit of our laws,” &c.

We confess that on first reading this “decision,” we noted it for remark, but the committee has gone so far beyond—not what we thought, but,—what we meant to say, that we are silenced. They use the following vigorous English:

“We confess our great surprise and mortification that such a case as this should ever have had an existence in a Masonic Lodge. We did not know that there was a Mason in Iowa, much less a Lodge of Masons, with so little ‘milk of human kindness’ coursing in their veins as is here disclosed to their shame and disgrace. We live to learn, and learn indeed, that there men and Masons in whose breasts gentle God-like charity has given place to passion and vindictiveness, abhorrent to every noble and generous feeling of our nature. (We do not refer to this case alone.)

“In reviewing the conduct and actions of such as are portrayed in the papers that come up at times to our Annual Communications, we are forcibly led to ask:

‘Are there no stones in heaven
But what serve for the thunder?’”

Right Worshipful THEODORE S. PARVIN, Grand Secretary, also submitted a Report (in accordance with the requirements of the law,) which has compelled our unstinted admiration for its frankness, vigor, and sound judgment. The amount of labor performed by this distinguished Brother, both in and out of his station, has been very great: as Librarian, Chairman of the Committee on Jurisprudence, &c., &c.

We regret that the limits which have been assigned to our review prevents us from extracting largely from his report, but we select his account of his visit to Philadelphia, as of most interest to the brethren in Pennsylvania, for whose benefit our review is prepared. Here it is:

“DEDICATION OF THE MASONIC TEMPLE IN PHILADELPHIA.

“SEVERAL years ago, when serving the Craft as Grand Master, we were engaged in the organization of a new Lodge and instructing the brethren. It was in the good old time when ‘there was no royal road to geometry, or Masonry,’ and all instruction in the ritual was given by the word-of-mouth. Our labor and efforts were constantly interrupted by a brother, old as our father, who, to fortify his objection to our way, would always remark: ‘that it was not so anciently; the work was so-and-so,’ &c. His age and our comparative youth gave, (as we discovered) consideration to his objections in the minds of the younger portion especially of the members. Knowing his antecedents, we at length modestly asked him: How long he had been a Mason? After hesitating and stammering, he replied, ‘a year.’ Have you ever visited before to-night, any other Lodge than the one in which you were made a Mason? As he was aware I knew, he replied: ‘One other, in St. Louis.’ Did you witness any work on the only occasion you ever visited a Lodge? Amid the indecorous laughter of those same young persons, and the gravity of the seniors, he replied: ‘I did not.’ We had no further objection from that source. With this recollection, vivid in our memory, we recently, in our re-reading for the hundredth time the ancient constitutions, observed and noted this, ‘XI.—All particular Lodges (Grand Lodges and Masons,) are to observe the same usages as much as possible, in order to which, and for *the cultivating a good understanding among Freemasons*, some members out of every Lodge, (and Grand Lodge,) shall be deputed to visit the other Lodges, (and Grand Lodges,) as often as shall be thought convenient. (The parentheses are our own.)

“The old Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, actuated by the motive of the law *italicised* above, having completed their Temple, the most gorgeous and splendid, the most ample and convenient, yet erected and consecrated to Masonry, during the past summer, invited the elected officers of this and other Grand Lodges to join them in the ceremonies of its consecration, September 26th, 1873.

“For one, I may say with the Psalmist—‘I was glad when they said unto me, ‘Let us go into the house of the Lord. Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O, Jerusalem!’ And as

none of my associates could or would go, we went, and joined the thousands (there were upwards of thirteen thousand in the procession,) which Masonry sent forth on that joyous occasion, from the rock-bound coast of the old Bay-State to the sunset land where the Oregon floods lave old ocean; from the Florida reefs and Texas plains to the Great Lakes, superior to the grandest in all Lands:

* * * 'Bright was the hour
When Masonry's Princes in their pride and power
Knelt in the Temple's court.'

"We shall attempt no description of the Temple, full descriptions of which have appeared in all the periodicals devoted to Masonry in this country, Europe, and elsewhere.

"Separate days were set apart for the dedication of the several halls consecrated to the use of the Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter, and Grand Commandery, the services being conducted by Grand Master SAMUEL C. PERKINS; Grand High Priest CHARLES E. MEYER, and Grand Commander GRANT WEIDMAN, and their associate officers. Each days proceedings were closed with a banquet in taste with the surroundings. The third day the Templars in knightly array, to the number of four thousand, had a good parade and were reviewed by the executive officers of the city and state from a platform erected in front of the historical Hall of Independence. The Queen of Sheba was not there, nor any of her maids of honor, as our brethren of the Quaker City are not given to idolatry, unless it be the pardonable sin of worshipping their Temple, in which they had many to join them."

The Grand Lodge instructed the Grand Secretary to prepare, in suitable bindings, the Masonic publications of Iowa, to be placed in the Iowa Department at the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia, and recommended that aid and encouragement be given to that enterprise by each individual brother.

The Grand Lodge of Utah was recognized.

The Report of the Committee on Correspondence, by Bro. T. R. ERCANBRACK, is a well considered review of the Proceedings of forty-one Grand Lodges. Our report for 1873, had not, as we know, been received.

Most Worshipful JOSEPH CHAPMAN, Grand Master, and Right Worshipful THEODORE S. PARVIN, Grand Secretary, were both re-elected.

There are 333 Lodges, with 16,117 members; increase, 1075.

KANSAS.

THE Grand Lodge held its Eighteenth Annual Communication at Masonic Hall in the city of Lawrence, beginning October 15th, 1873. Most Worshipful JOHN M. PRICE, Grand Master, in the East, and eighty-one Lodges represented.

The annual address of the Grand Master is confined mainly to topics of local interest. He granted Dispensations for eighteen new Lodges, (17 Charters having been granted at the last Annual Communication,) which is certainly a rapid growth, and our brethren are to be congratulated, *if the increase of membership* keeps pace with it. According to the statistics given in the pamphlet, the average membership of a Lodge in Kansas is thirty-nine. It is only reasonable to suppose that the lowness of this average is due to the circumstance that many parts of the state are thinly settled, and the brethren must be content with a small Lodge, if they have any.

Among the decisions we note one—the subject we have already referred to. That when a brother receives the degrees of E. A. and F. C. in one Lodge; and by request of that Lodge the degree of M. M. is conferred in another, he becomes a member of the Lodge conferring the M. M. degree, on signing the by-laws.

In his address the Grand Master's remarks show a truly Masonic spirit. He deprecates the practice on the part of some brethren of bringing their private business matters into the Lodge, and seeking redress there.

"All such matters are simply and purely business transactions and should be referred to the courts for adjudication."

Another subject of prime importance to the Craft everywhere is thus vigorously treated:

"Again, in some Lodges, the secrecy of private transactions and especially of the ballot are not properly observed. It is improper for a Mason to disclose to a profane, that a candidate has presented his petition to the Lodge, or that he was elected or rejected, or any of the private affairs of the Lodge. It is also improper for one brother to demand or inquire of another the character of his ballot, and a brother violates his conscience, and his duty to himself and his Lodge, if he discloses to any one how he voted or his reasons for casting a negative ballot. It is the duty of the Worshipful Master not to permit any discussion upon the rejection of a candidate, or to allow a reconsideration of an unfavorable ballot. It is imperative that the secrecy of the ballot at all times and under all circumstances should be fully maintained. On the faithful keeping of the esoteric transactions of our Lodges depend the unity, safety, and permanency of our institution."

A curious case of Masonic law came before the Committee on Grievances and Appeals. A brother (non-affiliated,) was tried by a Lodge on a charge of selling intoxicating liquors. When the vote was taken, he was declared guilty, by a vote of twenty-two to eight. The question was then put as to the punishment to be inflicted. On expulsion, the vote was nine for, twenty-one against. On suspension, nineteen for, eleven against; on reprimand thirteen for, twelve against. A two-thirds majority was required. The convicted was then called in and informed by the Worshipful Master:

"That the brethren had declared him *guilty of immoral and unmasonic conduct, but had inflicted no penalty.*"

The committee reported that the Lodge deserved the censure of the Grand Lodge, for failing to punish, after declaring the brother "guilty of immoral and unmasonic conduct." The report was adopted.

Right Worshipful JOHN H. BROWN, Grand Secretary, also Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, presented the report of that committee, reviewing the proceedings of many Grand Lodges, Pennsylvania among the number. He speaks kindly of Brother DECHERT's last printed report as "excellent and elaborate."

Most Worshipful OWEN A. BASSETT was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful JOHN H. BROWN, Grand Secretary, was re-elected.

There are 146 Lodges, (of which seven are U. D.) with 5,429 members. Increase, 351.

KENTUCKY.

THE Grand Lodge held its Seventy-fourth Annual Communication in the Masonic Temple, Louisville, beginning on Tuesday, October 21st, 1873. Most Worshipful EDWARD W. TURNER, Grand Master, in the Chair, and four hundred and eight Lodges represented.

The Grand Master, in his address, announced the death of Past Grand Master LEWIS LANDRAM, who was Grand Master in 1860. He was a good mason and a Christian gentleman. "As a Mason he loved to work; as a Christian, he modestly relied upon the promise of his Divine Redeemer; as a citizen he gave offense to none; and thus has this good old man passed away."

The Grand Master is, and indeed all of brethren of the Grand Lodge are, deeply interested in their noble charity — “The Masonic Widows’ and Orphans’ Home.” After the Grand Lodge closed its labors on the first day’s session, the Children of the Home united in an exhibition, at once tasteful and touching; consisting of singing and recitations. A report of this also accompanies the Proceedings. Many of the Lodges support one or more orphans at this Institution.

The subject of “mixed funerals” was settled by the Grand Lodge; that where non-Masonic societies have exclusive charge of the services, Masons should not attend *except as citizens and friends*. Where such societies have not exclusive charge, the Lodge may officiate, provided they have the precedence and occupy the post of honor in the rear.

The Report of the Committee on Correspondence reviews the Proceedings of forty-four Grand Lodges, Pennsylvania among the number. It is from Right Worshipful Brother J. M. S. McCORKLE, Chairman, who is also Grand Secretary.

We notice among the returns of the Subordinate Lodges many instances where dimitts were granted to E. A. brethren.

There are six hundred and ninety-two ministers of various religious denominations belonging to the Craft in Kentucky.

Most Worshipful THOMAS J. PICKETT, (Senior Grand Warden,) was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful J. M. S. McCORKLE, Grand Secretary, was re-elected.

There are 462 Lodges, with 20,964 members; increase, about 550.

LOUISIANA.

THE Grand Lodge held a special Communication on Monday, December 15th, 1873, for the purpose of paying a tribute of respect to the memory of Most Worshipful Bro. HENRY RUFUS SWASEY, Grand Treasurer, and Past Grand Master, who died in New Orleans, December 14th, 1873. Right Worshipful JOHN G. FLEMING, Deputy Grand Master, presiding as Grand Master.

The Funeral Ceremonies were conducted as usual, and an eloquent eulogy of the deceased brother was delivered by the Reverend Brother DEERS, pastor of the Church of the Messiah, of which Brother SWASEY had been a member.

A committee of three Past Grand Masters was appointed to prepare suitable Resolutions to be presented at the Annual Communication.

The Sixty-second Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge was held in Grand Lodge Hall, New Orleans, beginning on Monday, February 9th, 1874. Most Worshipful MICHEL ELOI GIRARD, Grand Master, in the Chair, and eighty-one (subsequently eighty-eight,) Lodges being represented. The address of the Grand Master was eloquent, and at the same time practical. Among the things brought to the notice of the Grand Lodge, the pestilence of yellow fever at Shreveport, and the relations existing between the Grand Lodge of Louisiana and the Grand Orient of France naturally occupied a prominent place. How nobly the Craft in Louisiana stood by their suffering brethren, is shown fully by the report of the Board of Masonic Relief which was organized in Shreveport during the prevalence of the epidemic there, in which special mention is made of Most Worshipful Grand Master GIRARD, and others of the Grand Officers. They promptly

organized and sent to Shreveport a corps of experienced nurses, who remained there as long as there was occasion for their services. On this subject the Grand Master speaks as follows:

“During the past year a terrible scourge, a pestilence, has, without any warning, stricken our people at Shreveport, as if the implacable tyrant intended the destruction of that unfortunate city. Thirty-three of our brethren have fallen there as in a heap, and thence the Angel of Death has spread its wings, carrying desolation over a large extent of territory, and it is dreadful to count up the number of its victims. Heart-rending, indeed, has been the distress occasioned by this terrible and fatal visitation; but, it has offered an opportunity to give practical proof of the sincerity of the protestations of brotherly love made by the Masonic family. As soon as our distress was known, the heart of the Great American Masonic Fraternity was moved, and from many jurisdictions, far and near, assistance was forwarded, and the Masonic committee of Relief at Shreveport were amply supplied, and even enabled, from the offerings received by them, to spare some to other sufferers. Truly such evidences of *real* brotherly love and tangible relief are very gratifying; yet there are those who cry out, that the tree that bears this fruit, should be ruthlessly cut down.”

The records of the various jurisdictions throughout America, which have come before us in the performance of our duty, confirm the eloquent words of the Grand Master. Nearly every Grand Lodge took some fraternal action in this extremity.

The usurpation of the Grand Orient of France, invading the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, is discussed by the Grand Master quite temperately and with becoming dignity. The questions involved have been so thoroughly reviewed before, that we refrain from further remarks now. There seems no prospect of amicable settlement.

Growing out of this trouble, or at any rate out of the principles of jurisprudence involved in the discussion, came the severance of fraternal relations between Louisiana and

Canada. Briefly stated, the difference arose thus: France invaded Louisiana, and non-intercourse between them ensued, the question being one of territorial jurisdiction. Quebec was politically severed from Canada, and the Quebec Lodges (or some of them,) formed a Grand Lodge which Canada refused to recognize, considering it as an invasion of her territory. Louisiana recognized Quebec. Canada, after that, (without intending to affront Louisiana,) exchanged representatives with France. Louisiana (deeming this an act of retaliation for recognizing Quebec,) withdrew her representative from Canada, and the trouble was complete.

We give this brief outline and without indicating any judgment, we are permitted to express profound regret. Happily, the difficulties between Canada and Quebec have been entirely settled, and the conciliatory remarks of Grand Master GIRARD give us good reason to hope, that those between Louisiana and Canada may be brought to a speedy end. He says:

“It is therefore apparent that the act of the Grand Lodge of Canada was not done in malice or hostility against us, and we are glad, indeed, that they have said so; we now hope sincerely, this estrangement may be soon changed to a closer and firmer union and friendship than ever.”

The Grand Master also gives a fraternal notice of the invitation to the Grand Officers of Louisiana, to be present at the Dedication of our Temple, which they were not able to accept.

There are other portions of the address which we had marked to notice, but cannot.

It is evident, from the report of the Committee on Masonic History, that the Brethren will have before long, an exhaustive work on that subject. An introduction entitled “The Rise and Progress of Freemasonry in Louisiana,” by Brother JAMES BRUCE SCOTT, has already been published, and the committee (the Grand Master chairman,) are enthusiastically in earnest.

The Report of the Committee on Correspondence is from the pen of Reverend Bro. HENRY S. JACOBS, Chairman; and is evidently prepared with great care. Bro. JACOBS comments freely, but always courteously. Pennsylvania is fraternally mentioned, and at some length, and quotations are made from the Reports of the Library Committee, and of the Building Committee, and from the annual address of Grand Master PERKINS. The report of our predecessor (Bro. HENRY M. DECHERT) is also noticed. In his prefatory remarks, Bro. DECHERT declared that, for excellent reasons, he had "abstained from every appearance of hostile criticism of local decisions and modes of operation." Whereupon our Louisiana brother says :

"If the word 'hostile' be used in the sense in which Webster defines it 'belonging to an enemy; showing ill-will and malevolence, or a desire to thwart and injure; inimical; unfriendly,' we will go 'hand in-hand' with our Pennsylvania brethren; but if the idea be, to object to all criticisms which may be addressed to the views expressed, or actions arrived at by other grand bodies, we think Bro. DECHERT takes an erroneous position. May we not express an honest difference of opinion, without meaning, or giving offence? Besides, what is a review? Is it to be a mere dry synopsis, or is it to be the minutes of a Mutual Admiration Society? We believe that a criticism which disagrees with the opinions of others, may be well and pertinently urged within all the just bounds of kindness, urbanity, and courtesy; and it is, indeed, by the candid exchange of views, and the arguments which ensue from a divergence of opinion, that truth can be elicited, and knowledge increased. We must compliment the committee on the systematic form and method in which the report is presented."

We regret that we cannot do better justice to this excellent report.

Most Worshipful MICHEL ELOI GIRARD, Grand Master, and Right Worshipful JAMES C. BATCHELOR, M. D., Grand Secretary, were both re-elected.

There are 157 Lodges; (two of which are U. D.,) 7,788 members. Decrease, 132.

MAINE.

THE Grand Lodge held its Fifty-fifth Annual Communication at Masonic Hall, Portland, beginning on Tuesday, May 5th, 1874. Most Worshipful DAVID CARGILL, Grand Master, presiding, and one hundred and fifty-four Lodges represented.

In his annual address the Grand Master reports prosperity among the Lodges generally. He very properly regards mere increase in numbers as not an unerring index; but it cannot be doubted that the Fraternity is prosperous indeed, when the Lodges are augmented, as the Grand Master says, "from those held to be our very best citizens in those communities where they have their location," so that "to have it known that a person has been made a Mason is equivalent to endorsing him as a good and trusty man." That is the great need of our Lodges everywhere "from Maine to Georgia;" as the expression used to be. Not "anybody, good Lord, anybody," as the ancient maiden said when invited to choose a husband. We want good material to work on, or none.

The address refers feelingly to the deaths during the year of two Past Grand Masters, who seem to have been deeply rooted in the affections of their brethren,—Most Worshipful Brother FREEMAN BRADFORD, and Most Worshipful Brother JOHN H. LYNDE. Both were buried by the Grand Lodge with Masonic honors, and proper minutes and resolutions of respect to their memories were adopted.

Many decisions of local interest were made and are reported. We note one. A Worshipful Master brought out his Lodge on a public parade on the Fourth of July, without a Dispensation. He was ignorant of any regulation to the contrary *until after the procession had formed*, when some one told him it was forbidden. He concluded "to take the consequences," which *he did*, in the shape of a six-months' sus-

pension from his office. The Grand Master, however, in reporting the case to the Grand Lodge, spared him pain by withholding his name.

Our brethren in Maine have taken quite a decided part in the Canada-Quebec *imbroglio*. The Grand Master calls attention to the case, and submits the papers, copies of which had been referred to this committee before the "Proceedings" reached us. As the principals have settled their difficulties, and are now in harmony and brotherly love, we suppose the collateral unpleasantness will also come to a speedy conclusion. We sincerely hope so. The Committee on Correspondence in a special report on this portion of the Grand Master's address, after recounting the facts of the case from their point of view, concluded as follows:

"Your committee are informed that the difficulties between the Grand Lodges of Canada and Quebec, have been so far arranged, that the acting Grand Master of Quebec has issued his edict revoking the suspension of Masonic intercourse with the Lodges in Quebec, hailing under the Grand Lodges of Canada, but no official notice of this revocation has been received.

"We recommend, that the Grand Master upon the receipt of official notice of the revocation of the edict of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, as above stated, be authorized to issue his edict suspending the resolution adopted at the last Annual Communication, until the further order of the Grand Lodge. We recommend, further, that an attested copy of this report be forwarded, forthwith, to the Grand Lodges of Canada and Quebec."

The Report of the Committee on Correspondence by Bros. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND and TIMOTHY J. MURRAY, contains an able review of the Proceedings of all the Grand Lodges in North America, except four. We regret that Pennsylvania is one of the four. The delay in publishing our "Proceedings for 1873" was quite unusual, owing to circumstances over which the Grand Officers had no control. As our Right Worshipful Grand Secretary explains in a note to the small pamphlet we did issue—"it was beyond his power to mitigate what is inexorable."

Most Worshipful DAVID CARGILL, Grand Master, and Right Worshipful IRA BERRY, Grand Secretary, were both re-elected.

There are 169 Lodges; 18,118 members. Increase, 894.

MARYLAND.

THE Grand Lodge held its Annual Communication in the Masonic Temple, Baltimore, beginning on Monday, November 17th, 1873. Most Worshipful JOHN H. B. LATROBE, Grand Master, in the Chair, and seventy-three Lodges being represented.

The Grand Master's address reports that the most important matter to come before the Grand Lodge, was its pecuniary condition:

"He is gratified in being able to say, that thus far all its obligations have been punctually met, including the payment of two thousand dollars, annually, to the sinking-fund, for the extinguishment of the mortgage-debt upon the Temple."

It was expected that out of the funds to be received at that Communication, the last of the floating indebtedness (which at one time threatened to result in the sale of the Temple,) would be paid, with the exception of one claim, properly in litigation.

Improvements had also been made in the large hall, which had successfully remedied the defects in its acoustic properties, and rendered it a desirable place for lectures, &c.; thus producing a considerable revenue.

Speaking of the dedication of our Temple, at which the Grand Master, and other Grand Officers were present, he "adds

his testimony to the universal voice of all who have seen this noble specimen of Norman architecture, the beauty of whose design is only equalled by the solidity of its construction."

The Committee on Correspondence made a brief report by Brother JOHN S. TYSON, Chairman, presenting only such matters as required action, or were of more than ordinary interest. The report refers to Spain, France, Brazil, Quebec, Hungary and Egypt. They recommend the recognition of Quebec; and that, from want of sufficient information, no action be taken by the Grand Lodge in respect to Hungary and Egypt.

A resolution recognizing the Grand Lodge of Quebec was reported by the committee, and adopted.

Most Worshipful JOHN H. B. LATROBE, Grand Master, and Right Worshipful J. H. MEDAIRY, Grand Secretary, were both re-elected.

A Semi-Annual Communication was held, beginning May 11th, 1874. Most Worshipful JOHN H. LATROBE, Grand Master, presiding.

Nothing of special interest was done.

There are 92 Lodges; 6,004 members. Increase during the year, 97.

MASSACHUSETTS.

THE Proceedings for December, 1873, being the One hundred and fortieth Anniversary of "The Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of F. and A. M. of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in union with the Most Ancient and Honorable Grand Lodges in Europe and America, according to the Old Constitutions," form a splendidly printed and interesting volume, beginning with the title page (which we have copied in part), and so through to the end of the last appendix. No little trouble is given to a reviewer to choose a part as best, where all is so good.

The Annual Communication was held at the Masonic Temple in Boston, beginning on Wednesday, December 10th, 1873. Most Worshipful SERENO D. NICKERSON, Grand Master, in the chair, and a large number of Lodges being represented.

The Grand Master's annual address opens with an obituary notice of Past Grand Master GEORGE M. RANDALL, D. D., Bishop of Colorado, and an announcement of the mortal illness of Right Worshipful Brother CHARLES W. MOORE, Corresponding Grand Secretary.

Of Past Grand Master RANDALL, the Grand Master said:

"It becomes my painful duty to announce to you the decease of our senior Past Grand Master Right Worshipful GEORGE M. RANDALL. He died at Denver, Colorado, on Sunday, the 28th of September last. The burial service was performed in his church, in the presence of the Grand Lodge of Colorado, which body accompanied the remains to the railroad station. A memorial service was held in St. Paul's Church in this city, on the morning of the 7th of October. Our honored brother was born on the 23d of November, 1810, at Warren, Rhode Island, and graduated at Brown University, in 1835. He pursued the study of theology at the General Theological

Seminary of the Episcopal Church in New York, graduating in 1838. He soon after assumed charge of the Church of the Ascension, in Fall River, Massachusetts, which he retained until May, 1844, when he was called to the Church of the Messiah in this city. Of the latter church, he may be said to have been the founder; and it was there that he ministered during the long period of his service in this Grand Lodge. In 1866 he was consecrated Bishop of Colorado, at that time, apparently, an unpromising field, but one in which he has labored with unwearied zeal, and with astonishing success. His services in Boston, and in Colorado, for the cause of education and religion were gratefully recounted by his brethren of the clergy, who took part in the memorial service, and will long be remembered and appreciated by the communities in which they were rendered.

“He was initiated into Freemasonry in Washington Lodge, No. 3, of Warren, Rhode Island, in 1835, and afterwards became its Worshipful Master. In 1846 and 1847 he served as one of the Grand Chaplains of this Grand Lodge; in 1848, as District Deputy Grand Master of the First Masonic District; in 1849-’50 and ’51 as Deputy Grand Master; in 1852-’53 and ’54 as Grand Master; and from 1855 to 1863 as a member of the Committee on the Library. Thus it appears, that for twenty years he held responsible and important offices in the Grand Lodge. Being a ready and pleasing speaker, he was frequently called upon to deliver Masonic addresses, some of which have been preserved, and are interesting and valuable contributions to Masonic literature. He was last present with us at the Installation of the Grand Officers, on the 27th of December, 1871. It will be remembered, that all the Past Grand Masters of this Grand Lodge were present on that occasion, and his name heads the list. Those brethren who participated in the feast of St. John the Evangelist on that day, will long remember his eloquent remarks. His death has brought vividly before us his pathetic tone and manner in the opening of that address. ‘This is the first time,’ said he, ‘for many years, that I have enjoyed the pleasure of meeting with the Grand Lodge at their Annual Communication. The years of our age are rapidly passing away and with them many of our brethren beloved, and the places which once knew them, know them no more. I was not a little surprised to hear my name called on the evening of the annual election, first on the list of permanent members of the Grand Lodge as the oldest Past Grand Master living. I could hardly persuade

myself that one who felt himself to be yet young should sustain this relative position in this venerable body. But so it is. These annual gatherings, while they exhibit the rapid growth of the brotherhood, remind us of the fathers who have gone before and, while we rejoice in the progressive activities which indicate increasing prosperity, we dwell with saddened love upon the memory of those who 'rest from their labor.'

"In his new home, he continued his active interest in the Fraternity, being at the time of his death the Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge of Colorado. That body tenderly and generously performed every kind office over the remains of our beloved brother, and to his bereaved family."

And of Brother CHARLES W. MOORE, he said:

"CHARLES W. MOORE is nigh unto death! For over forty years he has never failed to attend our Communications except the two or three which occurred while he was in Europe; or when he was absent in a distant city upon a commission of the Grand Lodge. On the 27th of December, 1832, he was installed as Grand Pursuivant. At the annual election in 1833, he was chosen Recording Grand Secretary, and was re-elected to that office each year until December, 1867, when he was appointed Deputy Grand Master. By his service in the latter office, he became entitled to permanent membership in this Grand Lodge; an honor which he had not previously enjoyed, notwithstanding his long services in this body. In December, 1868, he was appointed Corresponding Grand Secretary, an office which he has held by successive appointments until the present time. Thus it appears, that he has been constantly engaged in the active service of this Grand Lodge for forty-one years. During the Anti-Masonic excitement, which raged from 1826-'34, he was unwearied in the defense of the Institution. He was the author of the famous 'Declaration of the Freemasons of Boston and Vicinity,' issued in 1831, and of the Memorial surrendering the Charter of the Grand Lodge, presented to the Legislature at the session of 1834. To him, more than any other brother, is the Grand Lodge indebted for its triumphant issue from that trying ordeal; and other Grand Lodges were sustained by our example. Such pre-eminent services would seem to demand a corresponding recognition. We should honor ourselves by conferring upon him who has rendered them, an especial mark of appreciation and gratitude. I,

therefore, recommend that Right Worshipful CHARLES W. MOORE be elected to the rank of Honorary Past Grand Master of this Grand Lodge. I am not aware that there is any precedent on record in this country for such action; the nearest approach to one in the history of our own Grand Lodge, will be found in the record of the communication, held on December 27th, 1845, when Right Worshipful Brothers GEORGE OLIVER, D.D., and ROBERT THOMAS CRUCEFIX, M.D., both of England, were elected honorary members; the former with the rank of Past Deputy Grand Master, and the latter with the rank of Past Senior Grand Warden. Should you adopt my suggestions, I believe your action will meet the general approval of the Craft, and be keenly and gratefully appreciated by the recipient."

Upon the suggestion of the Grand Master, the Grand Lodge, in a resolution unanimously voted, promoted Right Worshipful CHARLES W. MOORE to the rank of Honorary Past Grand Master, and required him to be recognized and respected accordingly.

Brother MOORE died shortly after the close of the Communication, and was buried in Mount Auburn, December 16th, with Masonic honors.

Grand Master NICKERSON, with all the elective Grand Officers, were present at the dedication of our Temple in September, 1873. Speaking of this, the Grand Master says:

"Most of the Grand Lodges of this country were represented, and we gladly availed ourselves of the opportunity to make the acquaintance of many distinguished brethren. The building has been so fully described in the various Masonic periodicals, as well as in the newspapers of the day, that it is only necessary for me to say, that it is the most costly, and by far the finest, edifice ever erected for Masonic purposes. It covers more than four times as much ground as our Temple, and has cost \$1,500,000. The entire building is devoted to Masonic uses, and every need appears to have been provided for in the most ample manner. About twelve thousand members of Lodges joined in the procession, and by the

uniformity and neatness of their dress, and the propriety and dignity of their bearing, commanded the admiration of an immense throng of spectators, and reflected the highest credit upon the Fraternity of that ancient Commonwealth."

Appended to the Proceedings, are biographical sketches of the Grand Chaplains of Massachusetts, from 1797 to the present time, and a sketch of the life of Right Reverend EDWARD BASS, first Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Massachusetts, who, although not a Grand Chaplain, officiated and preached before the Grand Lodge, and was a prominent member of the Fraternity.

The volume is adorned with portraits of many of the Grand Chaplains, and has a steel plate of General JOSEPH WARREN, Provincial Grand Master, as a frontispiece.

Most Worshipful SERENO D. NICKERSON, Grand Master, and Right Worshipful CHARLES H. TITUS, Grand Secretary, were both re-elected.

MICHIGAN.

A SPECIAL Communication, to lay the corner-stone of the New State Capitol, was held at Lansing, October 2d, 1873, Most Worshipful HUGH McCURDY, Grand Master, presiding.

After reviewing the civic and military procession, of which the third division was composed of the Masonic Lodges of Michigan, and the second division of the Grand Commandery and twenty one Subordinate Commanderies of Knight Templars of the State of Michigan; the Grand Master laid the corner-stone, by invitation of Governor of the State and the Board of Building Commissioners, amid the salvos of artillery. The ceremonies which are given in detail, were impressive, and in ancient form, and the address of the Grand Master was stirring and eloquent. Most Worshipful WILLIAM M. WILSON, Grand Master of Canada, was present with the Grand Lodge.

The Annual Grand Communication was held at Music Hall, Detroit, on Tuesday, January 27th, 1874. Most Worshipful HUGH McCURDY, Grand Master, presiding. Three hundred Lodges represented.

The Grand Master's annual address, besides mentioning the death of Past Grand Master FRANCIS DARROW, one of the pioneers of the Craft in Michigan, and of several other Past Grand Officers, is devoted mainly to local topics of administration and jurisprudence, which are treated with practical common sense.

A question submitted to him:—"Whether Masonry requires a candidate to avow a belief in the Divine authenticity of the Holy Scriptures?" was answered in the negative.

"The Indian who believes in the 'Great Spirit,' and the Jew who reverently adores the 'Great Jehovah,'—the Trinitarian and Unitarian—the Calvinist and Armenian—the Catholic and the Protestant—the Mohammedan and the Hindoo—can all harmoniously kneel at Masonic altars, and recognize their mutual fraternal relations."

To another question, he replied: "That a vote cannot be taken in a Masonic Lodge by yeas and nays; it is not in accordance with Masonic usage."

The Grand Master, and Grand Officers were prevented from coming to Philadelphia to witness the dedication of our Temple; the time fixed being too near to the laying of the corner-stone of the State Capitol at Lansing, to enable them to get back and complete their arrangements for that ceremony in time.

Certain petitions or requests from persons representing themselves as Freemasons and members of Lodges, claiming to hold charters under a Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, of the York Rite, (colored,) of the State of Michigan were presented to the Grand Lodge. They were very properly disposed of by a resolution, declaring the juris-

diction of the Grand Lodge within the State to be exclusive, and that all so called Lodges not acknowledging allegiance to the Grand Lodge were clandestine, no matter from what source they derived their authority. Be the fact agreeable or otherwise, *there can be no doubt that it is a fact*, that Ancient Masonry makes no requirement of color or race, in a candidate, if he be a free-born man; and, as far as we know, there is no regulation of any Grand Lodge which excludes a person otherwise eligible, on account of color merely. And by this time it ought to be understood that the only way into the Fraternity is by entering a lawfully warranted Lodge, holding a recognized charter. The resolutions were adopted by a unanimous vote.

The Report of the Committee on Correspondence, by Grand Secretary FOSTER PRATT, is long and interesting. Pennsylvania is fraternally mentioned.

Most Worshipful WILLIAM L. WEBBER, (Deputy Grand Master) was elected and Grand Master, and Right Worshipful FOSTER PRATT, was re-elected Grand Secretary.

There are 314 Lodges; (four being U. D.,) 24,997 members. Increase, 799.

MINNESOTA.

THE Grand Lodge held its twenty-first Annual Communication at Masonic Hall, St. Paul, beginning on Tuesday, January 13th, 1874. Most Worshipful CHARLES GRISWOLD, presiding, and fifty-six Lodges represented.

The address of Grand Master GRISWOLD is a paper of great interest to the Craft and his considerations and suggestions how to develop the power of Masonry, to advance its interests, increase its strength and make it productive of the greatest good to mankind, are worthy to be sounded into the ears of Craftsmen everywhere, to stir them to a more earnest, zealous and faithful performance of their duty to the great Institution to which they belong, and which is responsible for them. The errors of too easy admission of candidates, whereby improper persons are made brethren; of bungling work which seems a meaningless jargon, incapable of conveying the lessons intended to be taught; and the vices of ignorance, profanity, and intemperance, are reprobated in strong terms. We regret that want of space prevents our making extended extracts.

Among the "decisions" we note one, in which we think the offending Lodge was treated with great leniency. Thus:

"On the night of election, a Lodge of Master Masons resolves itself into a convention—chooses a president, appoints tellers, and proceeds to nominate its officers by ballot. Is such a procedure lawful?"

Answer.—"It is not. No Lodge has the power to resolve itself into a convention, or 'committec of the whole,' for the nomination of officers, or for any other purpose."

The Grand Master does not say what he did to teach that Lodge and others not to do so again. Such a question was very temperately answered.

The Report on Correspondence, by Past Grand Master PIERSON, ably analyzes the proceedings of all the Grand Lodges on the Continent,—including those of Pennsylvania for 1872. A suggestion is made well-worthy of consideration by our Masonic antiquaries. Referring to the report of our Library Committee that they had obtained a copy of the rare reprint of 'Anderson's Constitutions,' by BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, in 1734, Brother PIERSON remarks:

"Is there not a 'GARDINER' in Pennsylvania, that can demonstrated that COX organized a Lodge in Philadelphia, some time in 1731 or 1732, and that FRANKLIN's Lodge was a kind of opposition? Had they made a sufficient number of Masons in six or seven months after organization to warrant FRANKLIN in publishing a book? COX's deputation included both New Jersey and Pennsylvania. He must have done something."

Most Worshipful CHARLES GRISWOLD, Grand Master, and Right Worshipful E. D. B. PORTER, Grand Secretary, were both re-elected.

There are 102 Lodges; (one being U. D.); 5798 members. Increase, 342.

MISSISSIPPI.

THE Fifty-sixth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge was held in the Odd-Fellows' Hall, in Canton, beginning on Tuesday, February 3d, 1874. Most Worshipful R. P. BOWEN, Grand Master, presiding.

The first business, after the appointment of the committees, was the Grand Master's address, which is almost entirely confined to local matters. The year then ended, he says, is memorable as one of great prosperity to the Craft, and the brethren of the Grand Lodge are appropriately called upon to recognize GOD, as the Giver of all good, and to bow before him in grateful acknowledgment for the mercies and blessings so plenteously bestowed upon them.

Among the decisions, we note the following:

"That a member of a Lodge might object to a degree being conferred on an applicant at any time, and that his objection could not be overruled."

This, we think, is not the general rule; certainly not in Pennsylvania. Before a profane is admitted into the Lodge and becomes a brother, investigation and objection are in order. After he has been admitted, he should not be deprived of his rights (among them the right of advancement,) except for sufficient cause. When an apprentice has been received and served a lawful time as such, he ought to be advanced, unless upon reasons satisfactory to the Lodge. That is our rule in Pennsylvania.

"*Decided*, That a Mason could not be deprived of a vote in the Lodge, until the Lodge first deprived him of membership."

Certainly he cannot. If under charges, the presumption is in favor of innocence, until convicted.

“That a Master Mason, elected to the office of Master of his Lodge need not, *under the law in this jurisdiction*, be required to take the Past Master’s Degree.”

The italics are in the Grand Master’s address. This decision has excited our curiosity. We presume that the officers of a Lodge are installed by our Mississippi brethren; and we are curious to know how the installation of the Worshipful Master is conducted. The Grand Master recommends the Grand Lodge to take the subject into consideration; and very sensibly adds:

“If I should venture an opinion, I would say, that the degree of Past Master is legitimately a part of Ancient Craft Masonry,—that it belongs of right to the Blue Lodge, and I think it ought to be understood and practiced, when the recipient is constitutionally entitled to receive it.”

During the year, death was busy among the Past Grand Officers, all of whom are affectionately commemorated. Past Grand Master RICHARD COOPER, died January 4th, 1874. He presided over the Craft from 1861 to 1864, and was a constant and valued attendant upon the labors of the Grand Lodge. He was a lawyer of considerable ability and unspotted name, and his memory is cherished by his brethren.

Reverend Brother A. H. BARKLEY, Chairman, presented the report of the Committee on Correspondence, containing a summary of the Proceedings of thirty-nine American and seven foreign Grand Lodges. He notices Pennsylvania in a fraternal manner.

Most Worshipful A. H. BARKLEY was elected Grand Master. Right Worshipful J. L. POWER, Grand Secretary, was re-elected.

There are 317 Lodges, (six of which are U. D.); 11,794 members. Increase during year, 347.

MISSOURI.

THE Fifty-third Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge was held in Freemason's Hall, St. Louis, beginning on Tuesday, October 10th, 1873, Most Worshipful Grand Master SAMUEL H. OWENS, in the Chair, and two hundred and thirty-four Lodges represented. The pamphlet containing the Proceedings deserves admiration for the plainness and simple beauty of the printing and clearness of arrangement.

A quorum being declared present, the Grand Master delivered his annual address, mentioning with a proper "memorial" the decease, during the year, of two Past Grand Masters, WILLIAM D. MUIR and JOHN F. RYLAND, both of whom were eminent lawyers in Missouri, but neither of whom was born there. Past Grand Master RYLAND had been a Judge of the Supreme Court of the State, and had filled a judicial station for twenty-seven years, with great ability and universal acceptance. Of him the Grand Master says:

"He was a true Mason and citizen. His standing in his Lodge and his Church were high to the day of his death. He cherished the principles of Masonry next to his religion, and among his last requests was one that his Masonic clothing should be placed upon his coffin, and borne with his mortal remains to his grave. No man was more universally loved than JOHN F. RYLAND, and none more worthily so."

He was buried with Masonic honors, and the Grand Master officiated at the funeral.

A number of decisions are reported in the address, with the reasons for each. We select a few for report, varying the language for sake of brevity.

A question was raised as to whether a Lodge can be closed on any other than the third degree. Decided that it cannot. That the brethren should not disperse on closing the Lodge in the second degree, as that leaves the Master's Lodge open.

A decision was given as to using the Masonic funeral service over the grave of a brother already buried. The Lodge applied to know if

“They could call a Lodge of sorrow and perform the usual funeral services over the grave of a deceased brother who had been buried several months before, but owing to inclemency of the weather, the Lodge was unable to attend to the same at the time of his burial.”

With regard to the “pretended funeral services” the Grand Master was positive, being satisfied that such proceedings are wrong. We think his views are extremely sensible. It seems absurd to go through the form of burying a person a long time after he has been actually under the ground: and the absurdity would clearly be heightened, by giving as an excuse for the delay, the inclemency of the weather. A fair-weather grief like this, is about as unreal as the mock ceremonies, and would certainly bring down the ridicule of the witnesses upon the parties engaged in it.

The Grand Master then proceeds to explain what a “Lodge of Sorrow” is in Germany, where such a ceremony is not uncommon. It is not a burial service, in any sense, but a commemoration, and is always held in a Lodge-room; never, we believe, in public. He says:

“Such Lodges have never been held in America, so far as I am informed: though some of the most learned Masons of our country have spoken favorably of the same. They have been known in several countries in Europe for some years, though they are without doubt, of recent date. I regard them as a modern innovation, of no great consequence for good or evil. I believe no American Grand Lodge has ever given such Lodges its approval. * * * In fact I do not know that any particular argument can be used against them, except that they are not Masonic, according to ancient usage. We have enough to do, when we circumscribe our work within the Ancient Landmarks, and do our duty there. We should not incorporate anything into Masonry merely because the ceremonies are pretty, and we see no harm in it. Masonry

is good enough, without improvement, so far as the ceremonies are concerned: and whenever we cut loose from our conservatism as Masons, and begin to adopt things, *because they are pretty*, Masonry will lose its greatest feature and soon be gone."

It may be owing to the old-fashioned, slow, A. Y. M. conservatism in which we were reared as Pennsylvania Masons, but these remarks seem to us full of the soundest good sense. The great boast of Masonry is its venerable antiquity. Let it once be inerusted with modern inventions and innovations, and its chiefest charm is destroyed. If a thing is, as Brother OWENS says, "not Masonie, *according to ancient usage*," then it is not Masonie at all, and should not be tolerated in the Lodge.

A singular case is the foundation for the 19th decision reported. The whole Lodge—all the members,—were under charges, and a brother wanted to dimit. The dimit was refused by the Worshipful Master and the Grand Master sustained him. That was all the decision—indeed, it was the only point the Grand Master was called on to decide. It would have been instructive to know how the charges were tried; what the Lodge did in the matter.

The 20th *Decision*—the last we can mention, we give *verbatim*:

"Physical qualifications again up for discussion. Candidate had lost one or two toes from one foot. Not knowing of any use to which a candidate puts his toes in the ceremonies, I decided that his physical qualifications were good."

In concluding his address the Grand Master positively declined a re-election. The Grand Lodge evidently parted with him in that exalted station, with regret. The committee on his address, say in their report, which was adopted:

"The Grand Lodge of Missouri has been peculiarly fortunate in having so able a man, and so zealous a Mason, at its head during the year."

There is much of other interesting matter among the Proceedings, but we were most attracted by the able Report of the Committee on Grievance, of which Brother RUFUS E. ANDERSON, the present Grand Master, was Chairman. As a specimen of skillful use of Masonic metaphor, and, at the same time conveying a valuable and timely warning, we copy the introduction to their report entire :

“The number and character of cases before your committee, shows not only a great deal of carelessness in the inspection of ‘the material offered for the building of the Temple,’ but (as we are glad to find,) a disposition on the part of the Lodges discovering its unfitness, to ‘heave it over among the rubbish.’ It would be far better if this were done before it is placed in the building, for, besides the difficulty of removing it, it always leaves an unsightly spot, however carefully extracted. Its juxtaposition with other good and substantial blocks in the edifice, is such as to loosen them, and weaken the superstructure wherever taken out, however skillful may be the artist who undertakes to displace it, and fill up the gap. Especially is this the case where rude hands take hold and jerk out the rotten material, without reference to ‘the how’ or ‘the when.’ We shall always expect, however vigilant may be the sentinel at his post, however carefully ‘the inner door’ may be guarded; that so long as Freemasonry exists’ there will occur instances in which ‘singular form and beauty, will hide the defects under the surface; overseers will be induced ‘to violate a positive command,’ and defective material finds its way into the edifice, but in some, yea, in many of the cases submitted to your committee, there is a degree of carelessness, if not criminal neglect, shown in the admission of material, (not with here and there a defect, that requires close inspection, and the tryer’s square to find it,) but absolutely rotten, bleared all over; and the constant application of all the working tools known to the Craft, from now until dooms-day, would never smooth and polish it, or fit it for the Builder’s use. With the plumb in one hand, and the hand-axe in the other, a faithful overseer would hew it all away. Money, position in society, the claims of a father who has served the Craft faithfully, the reputation of being a ‘clever fellow;’ these are some of the inducements that operate to render counterfeit or spurious metal current, and so long, and where

this is the ease, we shall always find a huddle of goats with the lambskin on. The days of miracles are past, and Masonry can never metamorphose an unsound, rotten and corrupt subject into 'a perfect ashlar,' ready for the Builder's use.

"God Almighty makes Masons. If the heart is right, the application of the working tools may break off the rough corners, tone down the rude and imperfect places, and fit it, it may be, for 'the headstone of the corner;' perchance, the 'keystone of the arch.' When Lodges learn this, there will be less occasion for the enforcement of the criminal law, and your Committee on Grievances will become, as it should be, a mere nominal one, provided only for emergencies, and not have thrust upon it a long catalogue of cases, embracing every species of crime known to the calendar."

The report was a fair illustration of the introduction, and the "dead wood" was remorselessly cut away.

The Grand Secretary, Brother GEORGE FRANK GOULEY, is, himself alone, the Committee on Correspondence, and presented his report, in which the Proceedings of nearly all the American Grand Lodges, and some foreign ones, are reviewed. He selects and gives a prominent place to decisions and reports on jurisprudence, so that his report is a valuable collection of Masonic law.

Speaking of our Proceedings for 1872, he says:

"A very large portion of the Proceedings is taken up with the financial accounts of the Grand Lodge, and from which we observe that it is in a splendid condition, notwithstanding the immense sum raised for the new and magnificent Temple, of which they may be justly proud. We regret very much that we were unable to have participated in its dedication, September 25th. The total cost of the building was \$1,252,970.23. The address of the Grand Master is an elegant production. He gives a deserved and seathing rebuke to the system of electioneering for Lodge offices. Brother HENRY M. DECHERT submitted a fine and very interesting report on correspondence, in which Missouri is fraternally noticed."

Most Worshipful RUFUS E. ANDERSON was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful GEORGE FRANK GOULEY was re-elected Grand Secretary.

There are 470 Lodges; 25,120 members. Increase, 2,002.

MONTANA.

THE Ninth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge was held at Masonic Hall, Helena, on Monday, October 6th, 1873. Most Worshipful J. R. BOYCE, SR., Grand Master, presiding; sixteen Lodges represented.

The pamphlet containing the Proceedings is handsome and well printed, and is embellished with a portrait, on steel, of Grand Master BOYCE, who retired from the Oriental Chair at the close of the Communication, after installing his successor.

The Grand Master's annual address is short and business-like. He reported one case to the Grand Lodge which provoked a good deal of discussion; some of the brethren seeming to think he had overstepped the limits of his authority. Certainly he employed an extreme remedy, but the circumstances of the case were such as to call for prompt action. The Senior Warden of a Lodge was charged with gambling, which is forbidden by the regulations of the Grand Lodge, and directed to be punished. At the beginning of the trial, but before he had put in a formal plea to the charge, the accused openly confessed his guilt, but he pleaded "not guilty," and went to trial. At the close of the trial, he again confessed his guilt; and after that a vote was taken, and the Lodge voted him not guilty. The facts being reported to the Grand Master, (unofficially, it seems,) he issued an order declaring

the trial void, on the ground that the decision of the Lodge was tantamount to saying that gambling was not a Masonic offence, and it was therefore a deliberate defiance of the authority of the Grand Lodge, which had expressly declared it to be such; and he ordered a new trial. At this second trial the Grand Master was present, and (it was said in the appeal,) stated to the Lodge, "that if they did not find the accused guilty, he would arrest their charter."

Two committees—Jurisprudence and Appeals—reported on the case; indeed, the Committee on Appeals made two reports before they reached a conclusion: and the Jurisprudence Committee reported that they had "agreed to differ" on an important point. The appeal was settled by the Grand Lodge, by being summarily dismissed, and the judgment of the Lodge upon the second trial was affirmed. But they voted on the question of the power of the Grand Master, that in all Masonic trials, where the guilt or innocence of the accused was involved, the appeal of any party affected by the result, was *to the Grand Lodge alone*, and that the power of the Grand Master to interfere was limited to cases arising in his immediate presence, or under his direct observation.

The whole Proceedings of this Grand Lodge show that the brethren of this far-off jurisdiction are keenly alive to the great fundamental principles of Freemasonry, and that the Fraternity stands before that community as the bulwark of virtue, the exemplification of benevolence, the encouragement of patriotism, the embodiment of charity.

The report on Correspondence by the Grand Secretary, Brother CORNELIUS HEDGES, is ably done. We quote his agreeable remarks about the dedication of our Temple. The brethren will notice in the extracts in our report on that subject, the various estimates of the numbers in the line of parade, on that auspicious day. As we all know, the regulation apron worn on the occasion was (for the sake of uniformity,) provided by the Grand Lodge, and it is thus possible for us to know, without resorting to estimate, that very nearly fifteen thousand brethren participated in that celebration.

Brother HEDGES, speaking of our Temple, says:—

“We would detail many things regarding the progress of this great work, but we fear such items would lack interest, to appear after the work is all complete, and the press of the land is filled with glowing descriptions of its magnificence. Even while seated perusing this volume of 1872, the telegraph brings word, even into these recesses of the Rocky Mountain, (September 27th, 1873,) that the Temple is completed, and was consecrated, on the appointed day, by Grand Master PERKINS; that fifty-nine Lodges of Philadelphia turned out nine thousand strong; that Lodges from all parts of the State were in attendance, and distinguished guests, from all parts of the world; that the procession occupied three hours in passing a given point. This is the meagre skeleton transmitted by wire; but around this frame, our fancy can add the details of life, and motion, and speech; the look of proud satisfaction in realized hopes, the elastic step of the Masonic hosts, marching as to receive the crown of victory, the mutual congratulation that each has been spared to see so auspicious a day. The volume of Proceedings before us, contains a picture of this beautiful structure, that, to us who can only look upon its outer form, looks as if made to please the eye alone; as if to vindicate the right of our Order to the name it bears, and the operative character of our earlier brethren, the builders of those cathedrals, castles and abbeys of the middle ages. We presume our brethren of Pennsylvania are hardly aware of the interest that their work was awakening in the extremes of the land, and of the thousands of hearts whose love and pride for Masonry, has been quickened by their splendid achievements.

“And yet, so it is, and with our hearty congratulations, mingle thanks of personal favors to every member of the Craft. Everywhere the Masonic heart has been made stronger and braver, and the step lighter, and the eye brighter. There seems something fitting that such a structure, built by such an organization, should stand in a city whose very name is brotherly-love, and that in advance of all other monuments to celebrate the Centennial of our Nation's birth, this should be the first completed. We have to acknowledge the generous invitation from Grand Master PERKINS, for all the officers of our Grand Lodge to participate in the consecration ceremonies and festivities. It was none the less appreciated because it was impossible for any one to accept; our hearts were there,

and if they put no figure in the procession, they responded, 'so mote it be,' to every word of cheer and congratulation, to every word of praise, and prayer, and hope uttered!

"For information to any of our brethren, who may not have heard, we will give a few leading items concerning this Temple. * * * * * Pennsylvania is one of the largest jurisdictions in the world; its Lodges number up to five hundred and one; its membership, thirty-four thousand, seven hundred and seventy-two; it initiates in one year, two thousand, five hundred and seventy-seven. The ordinary income from the annual dues, is about \$35,000. It is a constant matter of surprise to look through this volume, and see how little ordinary business occupies attention. There are no long reports from any committees; very little changing of constitutions, or decisions of vexed questions of Masonic law. Some jurisdictions of a dozen Lodges seem to have full as much business to transact."

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Most Worshipful SOLOMON STAR was elected Grand Master; Right Worshipful CORNELIUS HEDGES, Grand Secretary, was re-elected.

There are 16 Lodges; 667 members. Increase, 29.

NEBRASKA.

THE Grand Lodge held its Sixteenth Annual Communication in the Masonic Hall, Nebraska City; beginning June 17th, 1873. Most Worshipful WILLIAM E. HILL, Grand Master, in the East, and thirty-six chartered Lodges represented.

The Grand Master's address is a plain, practical, sensible document, giving an account of the business transacted by him during the year. A proposed Gift Concert in Omaha, advertised to be "for the purpose of aiding in the erection of a Masonic Temple," especially called for, and received his condemnation, and was the occasion of his issuing a circular letter, notifying the brethren that the Grand Lodge had declared such enterprizes abhorrent, and deserving of reproof and discipline. Subsequently the Grand Lodge adopted resolutions more than sustaining this action of the Grand Master, and declaring not only that trafficking in lottery tickets and such schemes was a Masonic offence to be severely punished, and requiring Subordinate Lodges to bring to trial all within their jurisdiction, guilty of such practices; but, also, threatening any Lodge which should fail to punish them with forfeiture of its charter.

The Grand Lodge recognized the long and faithful services of the Grand Treasurer, Brother GEORGE B. GRAFF, who had removed from the jurisdiction, by directing a proper jewel to be procured and presented to him.

A very eloquent oration was delivered by the Grand Orator, LUTHER W. OSBORN, in public, before the Grand Lodge and the people of the city, at the Methodist Church in Nebraska City, on the 18th of June. It is an able refutation of the cheap slanders against the Fraternity so common in the mouths of a certain class of persons, who are jaundiced with envy, and blind from willful ignorance.

The charities of this young jurisdiction are liberal. They have an Orphans' School-fund of \$5,815.07, so invested as to draw interest at from 10 to 12 per cent.

The report on Correspondence, prepared by Brothers LIVINGSTON and WISE, for the Committee, is ably done. They speak of Grand Master PERKINS' annual address, and Brother H. M. DECHERT'S report on Foreign Correspondence, in terms of high praise. Their criticism of the method of printing the report so as to allow the reader readily to distinguish between the quoted and original matter is well worthy of heeding. They pay Pennsylvania a compliment, which we have striven to deserve, when they say:

“For real dignity and strict preservation of Masonic comity, avoiding all acerbity, Pennsylvannia leads the van.”

Most Worshipful MARTIN DUNHAM, (Deputy Grand Master,) was elected Grand Master. Right Worshipful WILLIAM R. BOWEN, Grand Secretary, was re-elected.

There are 46 Lodges; (10 of which are U. D.) 2037 members. Increase, 201.

NEVADA.

THE Ninth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge was held at Masonic Hall, Virginia City, on Tuesday, November 18th, 1873. Most Worshipful WM. H. VAN BOKKELEN, Grand Master, presiding. Thirteen Lodges represented.

From the very excellent address of the Grand Master we find the Craft troubled with a vexed question, which seems to have given food for thought in many jurisdictions, and with respect to which there is a great diversity of opinion and of regulation—What is to be done with *non-affiliates*?

“If we endorse them to the world as good Masons, by allowing them to join in our public ceremonies, the world has a right to expect that we will, in the hour of trouble, minister to their wants, and allow them to draw from a treasury, to which in the hour of their ability they have persistently refused to contribute.”

Having stated this proposition, the Grand Master advises that means be adopted to prevent non-affiliates from visiting Lodges and joining in public or private ceremonies. In accordance also with these views is his Decision, No. 12:

“If a non-affiliate applies for membership and is rejected, the rejection does not relieve him from the duty of regularly contributing to the support of the Craft.”

Is not this rather hard upon a brother? to make him pay for privileges which are withheld from him? If he can and won't affiliate, there is some reason for making him suffer. Not if he would and cannot.

There is another decision which is worthy of remark:

“Every member of a Lodge present when the Lodge is balloting on a petition for the Degrees or Membership, must cast his ballot; and neither the Worshipful Master or the Lodge can excuse any brother from casting his ballot on such occasions.”

It is no doubt from want of thought, but Masters of Lodges are hardly careful enough to see that the voting on an applicant for admission is even general among the members. Perhaps (as we have before remarked in this report,) the greatest danger which threatens Freemasonry in America to-day, is the too great laxity with which persons are admitted as members. The only possible reason for the secrecy of the ballot, is that the vote may be entirely free from all improper considerations, and that every member may express his candid judgment on the worthiness of any applicant without fear of being called to account for it. When only a few vote on such a question, it can easily be known who cast the black-ball: the number, thus small, can be further reduced by elimination of those who either declare their vote, or who are known to be favorably disposed; and experience has shown that under such circumstances the unfavorable vote cannot long escape detection. Then follows, of course, the unpleasant discussion,—unpleasant, because personal—of character and motive; the solicitations and importunities, and all the canvassing and engineering on part of the friends of the rejected applicant, to get him another chance, and to secure a more agreeable result next time. It is, we say, the very purpose of a secret ballot to render this impossible; and the only means by which that purpose can be effected with absolute certainty, is to have the voting done by so large a number of members, as to make it reasonably sure that, in case of an unfavorable result, it cannot be guessed who is responsible for it. Indeed a brother who wishes to deposit a vote against an applicant whom he knows to be unworthy, may be deterred from doing this, his imperative duty, by seeing that the number of voters is so small that it will surely be traced to him and that speedily. Rather

than face the consequences of his act, he remains in his seat; the opportunity passes, and the applicant is declared to have been unanimously approved, who in point of fact, is not so approved, and does not deserve to be.

A resolution was offered by Brother DAVID E. BAILEY, providing for the appointment of a committee to correspond with the Grand Lodges in the United States, and to invite them to take steps for holding a General Congress or Convocation of Freemasons at Philadelphia, on the 24th day of June, 1876:

“Not for the purpose of instituting a general Grand Lodge, nor for the purpose of centralizing the government of the Craft: but simply for the purpose of a mutual interchange of Masonic sentiment and feeling, and brotherly greeting.”

But the Grand Lodge thought otherwise, and after some discussion the resolution was rejected.

The report on Correspondence by Brother ROBERT H. TAYLOR, chairman, occupies nearly three-fourths of the whole volume of the Proceedings, and is prepared with evident skill and care. Pennsylvania, for 1872, is very kindly and intelligently reviewed. We quote one sentence from the review of New York:

“The word ‘order,’ as applied to Freemasonry, annoys us every time we see it. Sometimes we have expressed this by remarking, ‘we endorse everything in this quotation, except the use of the word ‘order,’ &c., &c., but we meet it so often that we cannot always stop to note the objection. We do wish that Masonic writers would reform it altogether, and we wish that every ‘Manual,’ ‘Monitor,’ ‘Trestle-board’ and ‘Guide,’ that contains that word as the name of our Fraternity, could be incontinently *burned*.”

Most Worshipful HORATIO S. MASON was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful SAMUEL W. CHUBBUCK, Grand Secretary.

There are 17 Lodges; (two of which are U. D.) 1280 members. Increase, 97.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

THE small pamphlet for the year 1874, "Annual Publication, No. 8," contains the Proceedings of two Special Communications and of the Seventh Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge. On March 12th, 1874, the Grand Lodge met at Carlton to install certain of its officers who had been absent at the preceding Annual Communication. And on July 11th, 1874, the Grand Lodge again assembled at St. John, to pay the last honors to an old and devoted Past Officer, Brother JOHN WILLIS, who was buried with the customary Masonic ceremonies.

The Annual Communication was held at the Masonic Hall, St. John, beginning on Wednesday, September 23d, 1874. Most Worshipful JOHN V. ELLIS, Grand Master, presiding, and nineteen Lodges represented.

The Grand Master's address represents that—

"Peace prevails within our borders, and a kindly generous spirit pervades all the Lodges that I have visited. What differences have arisen, have as a rule, been amicably settled, and there have been no troubles of a serious or complicated nature. The Craft is growing in numbers and in wealth: most of the Lodges own their Halls; with one or two exceptions, they are meeting in rooms occupied exclusively by themselves."

We notice also, in the Grand Master's address, that even in this far Northern jurisdiction, where, one would think, the "culléd pusson" would be too sparsely mixed with the population to cause much remark: they are not entirely free from "the irrepressible conflict." Twice during the year the Grand Master was applied to for his consent to the erection of a Lodge in St. John, to be composed exclusively of men of color. Some of the proposed members had been made Masons

in regular Lodges at Halifax: others "claimed to have been made in the United States, under an authority not known to or recognized by this Grand Lodge." The applications were refused by the Grand Master upon very satisfactory reasons, in harmony with the Landmarks.

The Grand Lodge unanimously adopted a resolution rejoicing at the settlement of the Canada-Quebec difficulties, and cordially recognizing the grand Lodge of Quebec; and forthwith accepted the credentials of Right Worshipful Bro. EDWARD WILLIS, as Quebec's representative, who was received with due honor.

Besides Quebec, representatives were also exchanged with Utah, Louisiana, Texas and Nabraska.

In the absence of sufficient information, the Grand Lodge declined to extend recognition to the Grand Orients of Brazil, Egypt, Hungary or San Domingo.

Noting, as we do, all that seems to be of interest to the Pennsylvania brethren, we mention the singular name our Provincial brethren give to those appointed to conduct the elections. They call "Scrutineers," those whom we call "Tellers."

Most Worshipful JOHN V. ELLIS, Grand Master, was re-elected; and V. Worshipful WILLIAM F. BUNTING, Grand Secretary, was re-appointed.

There are 30 Lodges; 2,348 members

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

We have the reports of two meetings of the Grand Lodge :

1. The Semi-Annual Communication, held at Manchester, December 30th, 1873, at which nothing was done beyond exemplifying the work.

2. The Annual Communication, which was held in the Masonic Temple, Concord, May 20th, 1874. Most Worshipful NATHANIEL W. CUMNER, Grand Master, in the East, and sixty-four Lodges represented. The Grand Master's address is a plain, business-like document, devoted entirely to the affairs of the Craft in that jurisdiction. The Fraternity in New Hampshire, during the year, had been blessed with continued prosperity and peace.

The Committee on Trials and Appeals reported in favor of confirming the judgment of a Lodge, (and the Grand Lodge concurred,) by which a brother was tried and expelled without having received any notice of the charges against him. The accused was cashier in two institutions; one a Bank, the other a Savings Fund. He embezzled moneys of both to the amount of \$200,000, and *absconded*. Diligent search was made for him, to serve notice of the Lodge proceedings against him, (and doubtless for other *obvious* reasons,) but he could not be found. The Lodge then appointed a brother as his counsel, and he was tried, convicted, and expelled. We can only say—served him right

Another case reported by the same committee, gave occasion for some very pertinent remarks. A brother was tried by his Lodge for unmasonic conduct and expelled. There were fifty-three members of the Lodge, only eight of whom were present at the trial, but they were unanimous as to the

result. Speaking of the duty of every Mason to attend a trial to see that justice is done “to an accused brother,” the committee say:

“It is the duty of every Master to see that every member has due notice to be present. Unless under exceptional circumstances, no trial should be had without a general attendance. The judgments of Lodges will not be respected, if such trials are had before segments, fractions, or fragments of Lodges. If other remedies fail, it will be the duty of the Supreme Masonic Authority to see that justice is done. We know that Masons are but human; that with us they come from the active walks of life: that goaded with the spur of business, the whip of competition, and what are termed the demands of civilization, we, as a people, have become the busiest of mortals, consuming with fever as the race grows hotter, but there are yet left some duties that we owe to the living and the dead, and Masonry, if alone, should take care that time enough is spared from other tasks, to see that the dead be not compelled to bury the dead, and justice be done to the living, especially among brother Masons.”

The Report of the Committee on Correspondence is a very closely written, condensed review and analysis of the Proceedings of Grand Lodges throughout the country, by Right Worshipful Brother JOHN J. BELL, Senior Grand Warden. He gives a fraternal notice of Pennsylvania, and refers thus to our new Temple:

“We observe in this Grand Lodge, its Charity Funds have *not* been swallowed up in the enterprise of building the Temple, as has happened in more than one other instance. Much of the Proceedings is taken up with the arrangements, financial and other, relating to the new Temple; but as they are not of late date, and that magnificent edifice was completed and dedicated in September last, we will not further allude to them.

“The Masonic display at the dedication has never been equalled, and can only be excelled by the magnificence of the building itself.”

Brother BELL has pursued one thought throughout his report, which would render it peculiarly interesting to those considering the subject. He has collected and collated the sayings and doings of the Craft in the several jurisdictions on the question which—as we have before remarked—is now much discussed, what shall be done with non-affiliates? And on no question of immediate interest does there appear so wide a divergence, both of opinion and practice. He sums up the result in a word:

“The inclination to destroy the peculiar strength and glory of Freemasonry, its voluntary character, and degrade it to the rank of the ephemeral societies, which, having once in some degree imitated it, are now, by their example, demoralizing it, has not, to appearance, either gained or lost much during the year.”

Most Worshipful NATHANIEL W. CUMNER, Grand Master, and Right Worshipful JOHN A. HARRIS, Grand Secretary, were both re-elected.

There are 71 Lodges; 7,655 members. Initiations, 373.

NEW JERSEY.

THE Eighty-seventh Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge was held in Taylor Hall, Trenton, beginning on Wednesday, January 22d, 1874. Most Worshipful WILLIAM E. PINE, Grand Master, in the Chair, and one hundred and twenty-four Lodges represented.

The Grand Master, in his address, reported that the Grand Lodge met under auspicious circumstances; and well may the brethren give thanks to the bounteous Giver of all good, for such a statement as this:

“Universal peace and prosperity prevail among the Lodges throughout our jurisdiction, and for the first time since I have had the honor to preside over this Grand Body, the death angel has passed us by; and I am spared the sad duty of asking you to add another to the many memorial pages, which, in fraternal remembrance, help to make up the volume of our Masonic history.”

We extract two out of the fifteen decisions reported:

“7.—In Masonic trials, the accused should be permitted to testify in his own behalf.”

“10.—The use of postal cards or unsealed notices, for the purpose of transmitting Masonic information through the mails, is unmasonic, and should be prohibited.”

The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and Junior Grand Warden, reported their presence at the dedication of our Temple.

The Grand Master says:

“During the month of July, I received and accepted an invitation from Right Worshipful SAMUEL C. PERKINS, Grand Master of Masons in Pennsylvania, to be present on the 26th day of September, and participate in the dedicatory ceremonies of the Masonic Temple, erected by the Grand Lodge of that jurisdiction in the city of Philadelphia. Accompanied by my associate Grand Officers, the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, we attended as your representatives. The fraternal courtesy received at the hands of our brethren of our sister jurisdiction, and the rare privilege of meeting so great a number of distinguished and representative Masons, from various parts of the Union, will cause our visit ever to be pleasantly remembered. Too much praise cannot be bestowed upon the brethren whose unparalleled liberality erected this Temple; in architectural beauty surpassing any building of like character in the world.”

The Deputy Grand Master says :

“In July last, I received from Most Worshipful Brother SAMUEL C. PERKINS, Grand Master of Pennsylvania, an invitation to be present at the dedication of the new Masonic Temple, at Philadelphia, to take place on the 26th of September following. This was an enjoyable occasion, one long to be remembered by all whose good fortune it was to be present. Our brethren of Pennsylvania richly merit that which they have doubtless already received, the congratulations of the several Grand Lodges of this, as well as every other country, for the successful accomplishment of so great and mighty an undertaking. Beauty and grandeur mark the outline of this magnificent structure, while perfect symmetry and architectural beauty greets the eye, as you enter the spacious corridors, and gaze with wonder and admiration upon its beautiful proportions. Long may it continue a monument to the zeal, energy, refined taste, and liberality of the brethren of the ‘Keystone State.’ To Most Worshipful Brother PERKINS, Right Worshipful Brother POTTER, and others, we are under many obligations for fraternal courtesies.”

The Junior Grand Warden said :

“On the 26th of September, 1873, in accordance with an invitation from the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Penn-

sylvania, I had the pleasure of being present, and witnessing and participating in the solemn and impressive ceremonies incidental to the dedication of the Masonic Temple. I recall with feelings yet tinged with sadness, the sufferings of the Most Worshipful Grand Master of New Jersey and his confreres in the memorable testing of the 'cobbles' and 'Nicholson pavement,' on Broad street, and think it worthy of record that the fraternal regard of New Jersey for her sister jurisdiction, was evinced in much tribulation. It is not necessary to paint the wonders of that grand Masonic edifice, or rehearse the programme of the solemn rites of dedication. They are familiar to all the brethren."

During this Communication, the New Constitution, By-laws and Regulations were adopted and substituted for those before in force. There is nothing in them which would be accounted novel among ourselves. There are two points, however, among the "General Regulations," which are worthy of remark, if not of imitation. They are these:

"To prevent evil consequences, no brother shall be permitted to vouch for any person applying to visit a Lodge, unless he has sat in open Lodge with him, or has examined him under the direction of the Master."

The other regulation is one which always has commanded for our neighbors of New Jersey, our sincere admiration. Though it appears now newly adopted, it is a custom of long standing with them. It is:

"Nor shall a candidate be advanced until one month has elapsed after receiving a degree, and *he has exhibited suitable proficiency therein, in open Lodge.*"

We italicize the part to which we call attention. The experience of our brethren in Philadelphia, who are constantly interchanging visits with the New Jersey Craftsmen, will bear us out in asserting, that in the work of the first two degrees, the latter are the brightest Masons we meet. These are the two degrees, of course, upon which the regulation re-

quires an examination in open Lodge, and an exhibition of suitable proficiency. And such a regulation, it seems to us, is based upon the soundest of good sense. Why should an ignorant apprentice receive the same advancement as one who has properly devoted his time to acquire the rudiments of the mystery? Indeed, why should the ignorant be advanced at all? We know that there is a growing feeling among the brethren in Pennsylvania in favor of some such requirement here, and we hope the time is not far distant, when that feeling will take definite shape, and result in a "compulsory education" law.

The Report on Correspondence, by Brother MARSHALL B. SMITH, is ably done; and, Pennsylvania receives a proper notice from him. Naturally enough, the remarks made in the several jurisdictions, as to the action of the Grand Lodge of Delaware towards Alpha Lodge, New Jersey, occupy a prominent place in Brother SMITH's report. And he quotes from Brother DECHERT's report in 1872, his excellent remark on that question. We note that the trouble has happily gone no further, and that Delaware is represented in the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, by Brother SMITH himself.

Most Worshipful WILLIAM E. PEMBROOK was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful JOSEPH H. HOUGH, was re-elected Grand Secretary.

There are 138 Lodges; 11,342 members. Increase, 746.

NEW YORK.

THE Transactions of the Grand Lodge, at its Annual Communication, held in the Masonic Hall, New York City, June 2d, 1874, occupy a volume of over three hundred and fifty pages of closely printed matter, in small type; and there is so much of interest, well worthy of remark, that we are puzzled to select a little, as most attractive. Most Worshipful CHRISTOPHER G. FOX, Grand Master, presided, and six hundred and forty-seven Lodges were represented.

The Grand Master's annual address was both sensible and eloquent. Reviewing the year, he reports a fair degree of prosperity among the Lodges—their condition comparing favorably with that in former years. What trouble exists, is traced to its root—the careless admission of members by the Lodges. He says:

“The chief defect in the management of many Lodges, is their anxiety for *work*, and the consequent increase of members, at the expense of almost all the other essentials of Masonic purpose and practice. These evils will continue to annoy and embarrass, until the brethren learn to appreciate the fact, that, *unlike all other organizations, Masonry derives no strength from numbers merely*; that intelligence and virtue are the only proper prerequisites for admission to membership, and that true prosperity consists in the cultivation and practice of the moral and social virtues, a more intimate knowledge of the history, laws and customs of the Craft, obedience to its requirements, and a willing compliance with the obligations of Masonry, in the spirit of love, honor and truth.”

As long as the Fraternity is true to itself and its traditions, and receives out of the community, those only who are qualified according to the Ancient Landmarks, it cannot but be strong and vigorous. The material which composes it is then

homogeneous—it becomes jointed and fitted together, so as to form a common mass, and present a solid front. In such an union there are all the elements of strength and endurance. But let it once be understood, that the Lodge door is open to any who can pay the initiation fee; that the principal desire of a Lodge is to increase its numbers; to accomplish which, they receive all comers; and the Lodge becomes a mob, each individual of which has his own views and standards, and aims, and looks out for himself; with no more coherent power than a crowd gathered at a street corner. To pursue the Masonic metaphor, it is no longer a piece of solid masonry, built of chiseled stone, plumb, level and square, cemented well together; but a pile of loose rubbish, flung carelessly into a heap; and what good material may chance to be there, is sadly wasted and out of place.

The remarks of the Grand Master we have quoted with pleasure, as they bring into prominence a timely truth we all should heed. That *Masonry derives no strength from numbers merely*. A practical illustration that the Craft in New York act on this principle, may be found in the statistical table at the end of the volume, showing, during the year ending May 1st, 1874, that there were 4,899 initiations, and 1,771 rejections. *An average of one rejected to about four approved*.

Touehing the question of annual dues, and the proper punishment to be inflicted upon defaulters in payment, the Grand Master presented in his address some reflections, evidently well-considered by him, and worthy of note. It cannot be doubted—as he says—that as Lodges are now constituted, the imposition of a tax on each member, to be paid at stated periods, is the best, if not the only way, to provide for the expenses of a Lodge, and to furnish means for its charity. To depend to any extent upon fees, paid by candidates for initiations, would certainly be placing temptation in the way of brethren to approve persons, because their money was needed, and not upon the only proper consideration: that, of personal fitness. So far, there is little or no difference of opinion among the Craft in America. But the

real point of difficulty is in the measure of punishment for neglect to pay dues. As we have said in another part of this Report, (see Iowa,) it is, in our judgment, a question of *expediency* alone, and not of right. A Lodge (unless restricted by Grand Lodge Regulations,) has an unquestionable right to visit a brother who withholds from it what he has agreed to pay, with expulsion, if it should deem such action expedient. Of course, a brother who *cannot* pay, should stand excused; but his excuse should be made, his case examined, and if worthy his dues remitted. The case would be a rare one, we fancy, where a Lodge would refuse thus to relieve a brother who came forward and showed such good cause for his default. And where no such excuse is interposed, it is fair to presume that it does not exist. Certainly, no brother, who valued his Lodge privileges, would allow himself to be deprived of them, for want of speaking a word in season; or, if modest shame prevented, the fact of his poverty could become sufficiently known, without requiring such a sacrifice of personal delicacy. The question then remains: How far is it expedient to punish a defaulter, *who can pay, and will not?* And it is just here, that—with proper deference—we cannot think with the Grand Master of New York. He says:

“The refusal or neglect to pay dues, where there is ability to discharge the obligation, indicates a want of integrity, and is a clear violation of a solemn compact; and in either case, deserves the condemnation of all just men, and ought in common fairness to the diligent Craftsmen, to subject the delinquent to a deprivation of certain privileges. My opinion is, that the just penalty for the non-payment of Lodge dues, should be suspension from all the rights and privileges of Masonry, save that of charity, (for that right is derived from a higher than the written Law, and in its application, the Masonic teaching recognizes no distinction among Masons.) This penalty should only be inflicted in accordance with safeguards established by the Grand Lodge; *and should continue until removed by the payment of the amount due at the time of the suspension.*”

We have italicized the part to which we specially refer: that the act of payment at any time should operate to remove

the suspension, and restore the privileges lost by delinquency. In substance, such a regulation would allow a member to sever his connection with his Lodge, without first squaring his account; and then resume the same at will, when his interest or pleasure prompted him to do so. The only real penalty in such a case, would be that the delinquent could not join another Lodge, while in debt—much too slight, in our judgment, for the offence involved. After a severance of the connection, by the suspension for non-payment of dues, it should not be in the power of the delinquent party to renew it, without the consent of the injured party. A Lodge thus treated, might have good reason to say that they preferred not to receive again the member once cut off, and the opportunity should be afforded them of doing so, by requiring a vote to restore the offender to good standing in the Fraternity, and a ballot to approve him as an acceptable member, with whom the others could be at harmony and peace.

Brother Grand Secretary (JAMES M. AUSTIN,) in his report to the Grand Lodge, appropriately refers to the fact, that he had completed twenty-one years in that responsible station. What changes he has seen! He thus speaks of them:

“At the Annual Communion for 1853, the time when I was first honored by being elected to this responsible position, the highest number on the Roll of Lodges was No. 288. Now the highest number on our rolls is No. 739. Then there were only two hundred and thirty three warranted Lodges. Now there are six hundred and eighty three. But a still greater change has taken place in the membership. Then the membership did not exceed, in the aggregate, twelve thousand. Now we have upon the rolls over eighty thousand contributing members.”

The report on Foreign Correspondence, the joint production of Past Grand Master Brother JAMES GIBSON, and Brother M. PINNER, (the first named brother contributing

the review of the North American Grand Lodges, England and France, and Brother PINNER the residue,) is a massive performance; physically very long, and intellectually very solid. Truly, measuring our own feeble efforts with it, we feel the pungent truth of the proverb, *comparisons are odious*. Sincerely we regret that our "Proceedings" were not received by the brethren in time to secure us a place in the Report. All the brethren now know why they were delayed. We quote the final impressions of our experienced Bro. GIBSON, after his review of the field. It is full of encouragement to all who love our ancient and honorable Fraternity. He says:

"No conscientious Mason, after reading the 'Proceedings' of the Grand bodies of the world, for any one year, lately, and especially the last, but must be willing to freely acknowledge that the work done in Masonry has been very great, and in general toward LIGHT! This is truly a glorious feature and the subject of high congratulation. For as long as we can see that our advance in time, produces an increase of LIGHT, we may go on with confidence; for, though we are nearing the night when we cannot work, yet the pillar of cloud by day and the column of fire by night increase as we approach. And thus we know that we are going toward Him who established these monuments as our guides, and who hath ever been to us, while doing right, the GIVER OF LIGHT; or as our Parsee brother would, in faith, express it: 'THE BEING WHO RECOMPENSES.' For these reasons the Fraternity has much cause to be, and is, thankful, and in this, we faithfully join."

To those of our brethren who will be interested in a view of Masonry outside of North America, we recommend the perusal of the second part of this exhaustive report, which, at considerable length, reviews the proceedings of the Fraternity in Germany, Switzerland, Hungary, Great Britain, Ireland, Sweden, Denmark, France, Belgium, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Greece, Egypt, and the various countries of South America.

Most Worshipful ELLWOOD E. THORNE, (Deputy Grand Master,) was elected Grand Master. Right Worshipful JAMES M. AUSTIN, Grand Secretary, was re-elected.

There are 698 Lodges; 81,893 members. Increase, 2,044.

NORTH CAROLINA.

THE Eighty-seventh Annual Communication was held in Masonic Hall, Raleigh, on Monday, December 1st, 1873. Most Worshipful JOHN NICHOLS, Grand Master, presiding, and one hundred and fifty-three Lodges represented.

The Grand Master opens his annual address with a reference to the early history of the Craft in that jurisdiction: the Grand Lodge having been re-organized in Tarboro, just after the revolution. We quote a portion of his remarks:

“During that war many of the brethren who had constituted the membership of the Masonic Lodges in North Carolina had fallen in defense of their country. A number of subordinate Lodges had ceased to work, and our Grand Lodge itself had been despoiled, and its records destroyed by the British army in the town of Edenton. At the date of the meeting at Tarboro, this State had not adopted the Federal Constitution, nor had General WASHINGTON taken upon himself the oath of office as the President of the new nation. It was thus at a time previous to the organization and establishment of both the nation and the state, that the Masons of North Carolina met for the purpose of re-organizing their Grand Lodge. The character of persons composing that convention, as well as those who controlled the Grand Lodge for many years after its re-establishment, should be a source of pride to every Mason in the state.

“A reference to the proceedings of this Grand Lodge will show that the men who were foremost as commanders in the armies, and who after peace was declared, shaped and controlled the destinies of this State, were men high in the Masonic councils. As long as our State has a history, will the names and services of Samuel Johnston, Richard Caswell, William R. Davie, William Polk, John Louis Taylor, Montford Stokes, John Hall, and others be remembered. And these are the men who have shared the honors of this Grand Lodge, and illustrated in their lives the principles of Freemasonry in our midst.”

These remarks were prefatory to a recommendation that the Grand Lodge should cause a history of the Fraternity to be prepared, much of the material for which was already collected and among the records. The recommendation was adopted, and a resolution voted for the appointment of a committee of five, to collect and arrange the matter for publication.

The subject of non-affiliates has been vexing the brethren in North Carolina. In 1871, the Grand Lodge resolved that such as did not connect themselves with some Lodge on receiving three month's notice to do so, should be expelled. In 1872, this resolution was superseded by one to the effect that non-affiliation is a Masonic offence, “on the same footing as any other Masonic offence,” and that subordinate Lodges should convict and punish the offenders.

Remarking on the severity of these enactments, the Grand Master pertinently says:

“If a rule be established which requires the performance of an act by one party, to be consistent, the same rule must require the performance of a corresponding obligation by the other party. If we take *justice* to be the standard by which to determine the question; if we say, by the rule, that a Mason *shall* affiliate with the Lodge; by the same rule, (to be just,) we must say to the Lodge, you shall receive the applicant. This all intelligent Masons know the Grand Lodge cannot do. * * The Grand Lodge having already a standing resolution which deprives non-affiliated Masons of all the rights and benefits of the order, so long as they remain unaffiliated, (which has my

heartly endorsement,) I respectfully submit that we should let this vexed question alone."

This sensible suggestion of the Grand Master was acted upon by the Grand Lodge, and the resolution of 1872 was rescinded.

Among the decisions we note a few: somewhat condensed for brevity's sake: but not endorsing them.

The Grand Master cannot dispense the requirements of the ancient law, that a brother cannot be Master until he has served as Warden.

A single objection will stop the advancement of an E. A. and the objector need not give his reasons.

A Mason in good standing, who commits *suicide*, is entitled to Masonic burial.

An unfavorable report does not stop further action, the petition must be ballotted on.

A question was asked of the Grand Master, which under the law as it stood at the time, must have puzzled him not a little:

"A non-affiliated Mason makes application for membership and is rejected. What is his *status*? When and where can he apply again?"

The answer was substantially, "He can apply again as soon as he wishes, and where he desires."

We copy the kind and pleasant words of the Grand Master with respect to the dedication of our Temple:

"In September last, in response to an invitation from the Grand Master of Pennsylvania, I had the pleasure of attending, in company with our worthy Grand Secretary, D. W. BAIN, the ceremonies of the dedication of the magnificent Masonic Temple at Philadelphia. I there had the pleasure of meeting and exchanging fraternal greetings with Masons from all parts of our widely extended country. The occasion was grand beyond description, and will ever live in the memories of those who were present."

Brother J. H. MILLS, Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence (also superintendent of St. John's Orphan Asylum,) was excused from preparing the usual report, in consequence of pressing business engagements.

Most Worshipful JOHN NICHOLLS, Grand Master, and Right Worshipful DONALD W. BAIN, Grand Secretary, were both re-elected.

There are 227 Lodges; 9,943, members. Increase, 271.

NOVA SCOTIA.

THE first part of the pamphlet for 1874, contains a record of the Emergent Communication of the Grand Lodge, held at Halifax, January 13th, 1874, on account of the death of the Grand Master, the Honorable ALEXANDER KEITH, who died at Halifax, December 13th, 1873, in the 78th year of his age. This eminent brother was born at Halkirk, Scotland, and after a short residence in England, where he was made a Mason, emigrated to Nova Scotia, at the age of twenty-two years. In 1839, he was chosen Provincial Grand Master of Nova Scotia. In 1846, his jurisdiction was extended over New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland. In 1843, the Grand Lodge of Scotland appointed him Provincial Grand Master over the Scottish Lodges; and at the union of all the Lodges in 1869, he was unanimously elected Grand Master of Masons in Nova Scotia, which position he held until the day of his death. He was several times Mayor of Halifax, and was President of the Legislative Council of Nova Scotia. He was 57 years a Mason; 55 years a member of Virgin Lodge, Halifax; and 34

years in office as Grand Master. In the month of August preceeding his death, he traveled to Amherst, a distance of one hundred and thirty-eight miles, to please the brethren of Aeacia Lodge, by dedicating, in person, their new Masonic Hall. This was done on the 28th of August, 1873, and was the last public act of his long Masonic career. The brethren of Nova Scotia may well cherish with affection and pride the memory of this venerable and distinguished Mason.

At the Emergent Communication, after suitable resolutions had been adopted, Most Worshipful STEPHEN R. SIRCOM was requested to act as Grand Master until the next annual election.

THE Ninth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge was held in Masons' Hall, Halifax, beginning Wednesday, June 3d, 1874.

Most Worshipful STEPHEN R. SIRCOM, Acting Grand Master, in the Chair, and thirty-seven Lodges represented. It is chiefly from the address of the Grand Master and the report of the Grand Secretary, Brother BENJAMIN CURREN, that the above brief sketch of Grand Master KEITH has been compiled.

The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, Brother WILLIAM TAYLOR, accepted the invitation extended to him and the other Grand Officers, by Grand Master PERKINS, and favored us with his presence at the dedication of our Temple. Here is what he says of his visit to Philadelphia:

"As I have intimated, I was highly privileged to receive an invitation from the Grand Master of Pennsylvania, to attend the dedication of the beautiful Masonic Temple, which that Grand Lodge has erected at an expense of a million and a-half of dollars, at Philadelphia. That invitation I accepted, and was very agreeably accompanied by our Grand Superintendent of Works.

"We were most cordially received, and participated in all the ceremonies of that most memorable occasion.

"Those ceremonies occupied some five or six several days, and were in every particular, in keeping with the magnitude of the building, that was being thus solemnly set apart for Masonic uses alone. The Fraternity in that ancient and ex-

tensive jurisdiction, have thus set an enduring example to Free and Accepted Masons, wheresover they may be dispersed and located, and the surrounding jurisdictions paid high honor and regard by their general attendance at the dedication. Although the attendance from beyond the great waters was not large, yet kind words of congratulation came from those Grand Lodges, wishing the brethren of Pennsylvania a God speed in the good work they had in hand. All of these brotherly tokens were highly appreciated by the zealous and judicious brethren, who had devoted so much time and labor in the erection, and thus, finally, so to speak, placing the cope-stone in their grand and noble edifice. The number of brethren who participated in these ceremonies may fairly be set down at ten or twelve thousand, all of whom cannot but retain vivid remembrance of what passed before them in review. How can any who was present, divest himself of the recollection of that magnificent and elaborate edifice, with its numerous and splendidly fitted-up Lodge rooms; its spacious and beautiful Grand Lodge apartments; its ample and largely accommodating banqueting rooms; its convenient and home-like offices for the Grand Master, the Grand Treasurer, and Grand Secretary; and its well-arranged library and reading room apartments, with their shelves loaded with Masonic, useful and appropriate literature? All of these requisites and conveniences, are most elaborately provided in this truly magnificent Masonic edifice, and all for the necessary purpose of accommodating the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and the Lodges under her, and for the special convenience of the large and numerous Lodges in the City of Philadelphia. And when in addition to all these requisites for the Grand Lodge and its Subordinates, we note the fact, that in the Temple there are also extensive and beautifully fitted apartments, for the accommodation of Royal Arch Masonry, and the Knights Templars or Encampments, all in distinct and separate apartments, and further culinary provision in connection with the Encampments and Grand Lodge banqueting rooms—the latter of which is ample to provide for some five or six hundred guests at the same sitting—we can begin to form some genuine idea of what the magnificence and extent of that noble edifice must be. Having been so deeply interested myself, on that occasion, I have great difficulty in passing over the same, without endeavoring to impress upon ourselves some of the energy and zeal, which the brethren of Pennsylvania so prominently and judiciously display. I might spend much time in recounting to you the

composition of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and how nearly that resembles the composition of our own Grand Body, also the venerable and intellectual appearance of the Past Grand Masters, and of the various officers who were present; and the precise manner in which the various ceremonies of the occasion were conducted; and the admirable manner in which one of the Past Grand Masters acquitted himself, as the orator of the occasion. All these I might extensively expatiate upon, but in this I would be taking up more time than I would be justified in doing. Having, however, been favored by you, in being placed in the position of witnessing the events and ceremonies thus described, I consider it my positive duty, to endeavor to impart to you some of the information and pleasure which I received and experienced on this memorable occasion."

In the Report on Correspondence, by Brother GEORGE T. SMITHERS, chairman of the committee, (a very carefully prepared review,) Pennsylvania is mentioned very kindly. Our small pamphlet for 1873, was the one before the committee, and the various points of interest in it are skillfully pointed out. Past Grand Master PERKINS receives the following handsome compliment. Brother SMITHERS says:

"We are sure that all the brethren of every jurisdiction will feel regret, that Right Worshipful Brother PERKINS has felt obliged to decline a re-election. His noble endeavors in promoting the interest of the Craft in his jurisdiction, are well worthy of both imitation and emulation. The success of the new Masonic Temple, is of itself, a monument to his fidelity and zeal."

Most Worshipful J. WIMBURN LAWRIE, was elected Grand Master. Right Worshipful BENJAMIN CURREN, Grand Secretary, was re-elected.

There are 63 Lodges, (one U. D. ;) 3,113 members. Increase, 293.

OHIO.

THE Sixty-fourth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge was held in City Hall, Columbus, beginning October 21st, 1873. Most Worshipful ASA A. BATTIN, Grand Master, presiding; more than a quorum of Lodges being represented.

From the address of the Grand Master, we see that "peace and prosperity exists throughout our borders." A difference of opinion appearing to exist among the brethren, as to the prerogative of the Grand Master to dispense the required time between the conferring the degrees, he brought that question practically before the Grand Lodge, by reporting that he had, in a proper case, issued a dispensation to a Lodge, to confer the M. M. degree at a special meeting, upon a F. C. worthy and well qualified, and proficient in the preceding degrees. "The case," he says, "I have referred to, in which I attempted to exercise it, (the prerogative,) was certainly one which would justify its exercise, if any such power exists. * * I submit the question," &c.

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom the subject was referred, made no report of any kind, but were continued to report at next Annual Communication. Surely, if the ancient law goes for anything in modern times, the Grand Master's right is undoubted.

We quote the fraternal words in which Grand Master BATTIN informed the Grand Lodge of his visit to Philadelphia, on the occasion of the dedication. We are sure that the Pennsylvania brethren will echo the closing sentiment:

"On the 26th of September last, by special invitation, I visited the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and with our Right Worshipful Grand Senior Warden, and Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, was present at the ceremonies of the

dedication of the new Masonic Temple, erected in that city, by the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. The building is magnificent, and the ceremonies were impressive. A large concourse of the brethren from that, and other states were present, including many of the officers of other Grand Lodges, with many of whom I became acquainted. The event was an epoch in the history of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and you will pardon me for saying, that in my opinion, the Craft in that state, in erecting a Temple for the use of the Grand Lodge, and which it now owns, have set an example which might be profitably followed by the Grand Lodges of other jurisdictions. We were fraternally received by the officers of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and assigned a place in the procession, according to the rank of our Grand Lodge. That the best fraternal feeling exists between the Grand Lodges of Pennsylvania and Ohio, was manifest upon that occasion. May they always remain undisturbed and unbroken!"

In closing his address, the Grand Master referred, in feeling terms, to the death of two Past Grand Masters, WILLIAM FIELDING, who died February 17th, 1873, and WILLIAM B. THRALL, who died June 7th, 1873. Both of them had passed the allotted three-score and ten, having been born in the last century.

"Amid the storms of persecution, they never faltered; in the hour of trial, they remained firm, and with an eye single to the welfare of the Fraternity, each discharged with promptness and fidelity, the duties enjoined upon him. They were men of mark in their day: each nature's nobleman,—'the noblest work of God,—an honest man.'

'None knew them but to love them,
Or named them but to praise.'"

Death has sadly thinned the ranks of the veterans of Ohio. We note in the report of the committee to prepare a suitable memorial for these venerable brethren, that within seven years, the Grand Lodge has lost one Grand Master and seven Past Grand Masters.

The Grand Lodge resolved to hold its next session in Columbus, October, 1874.

The Correspondence Committee (called Committee on Foreign Communications,) submitted an excellent report, by their chairman, Brother JOHN L. STETTINIUS, in which Pennsylvania has a suitable place.

Most Worshipful ASA H. BATTIN, Grand Master, and Right Worshipful JOHN D. CALDWELL, Grand Secretary, were both re-elected.

There are 436 Lodges; 30,300 members. Increase, 1,364.

OREGON.

THE Twenty-third Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge was held in Masonic Temple, Portland, beginning on Monday, June 9th, 1873. Most Worshipful T. McF. PATTON, Grand Master, in the Chair, and forty-three Lodges represented; (three of them U. D.)

The address of the Grand Master contains a full report of his acts and decisions, and his views on many subjects of interest to the Grand Lodge. The vexed question of non-affiliates occupies quite a large space in the address. The Grand Lodge regulation on that subject, quoted in full, seems to us to treat the unaffiliated exactly right. They are to be deprived of Lodge privileges unless it appears that they are unable to pay dues, or that the Lodge in whose jurisdiction they reside has refused an application for membership. All men are not alike. Some are so constituted

naturally that a ritual, teaching by expressive and ancient symbols the plain truths of religion, morality and virtue, is to them a thing of joy, especially suited to their tastes; while others on the contrary, *cannot* comprehend the reason or fitness of the symbolism of Masonry, and to them the Masonic Rites and Ceremonies are trivial and comparatively meaningless. So there are those who are *color blind*, utterly incapable of distinguishing anything but degrees of light and shade. What would they care for the "dim, religious light," coming through the gorgeously stained and pictured windows of a magnificent cathedral? There are not a few, whom, if we might coin a word, we should call, *music-deaf*; persons who cannot turn a tune, or distinguish Hail Columbia from Yankee Doodle. It could hardly be expected that such would be enthusiastic in the concert-room, or become *habitués* at the opera. So there are persons to whom the symbolic ritual of Masonry conveys no meaning, who, although good and worthy persons, are out of place in a Lodge room, who are not in accord with the institution. Why force them to continue a connection from which they derive no pleasure, and in which they can be of little service, beyond paying a trifle annually to its support. If a brother honestly thinks he has made a mistake in joining the Fraternity, he has but one decent way out, *i. e.* to pay up his dues and resign his membership. There may be other reasons for non-affiliation, such as a change of religious views, or the dissuasion of mistaken friends, but we think quite a number may be traced to the cause we have mentioned. We do not take at all into consideration those persons, who, being able to pay, undertake to get the benefits of the Fraternity and sneak out of its burdens. The annual tax on members imposed by Lodges is usually too small to make the saving of that much money any adequate compensation for such transcendent meanness. Consequently that class cannot be large, and besides, such members would hardly be considered desirable in any Lodge as ordinarily constituted. But the others, those who refrain from active membership in the Fraternity for some reason,

whether valid or not, sufficient to their own minds : why should they be forced to re-enter ; or, suffer a penalty, as in some jurisdictions, the highest known to Masonic law, and involving the deepest Masonic disgrace ? Let them alone. They cannot expect to have Lodge privileges, while living in violation of Masonic duty ; a duty plainly declared by the ancient law “that every brother ought to belong to some regular Lodge ;” but still a duty which should be enforced only in the forum of their own consciences, and which no Lodge ought to compel the performance of by the infliction of a penalty. If they do not want us, we should not want them. *Let them severely alone.*

There was one decision of the Grand Master which caused some discussion, and was finally, upon a divided report from the committee on Masonic law, (three of that committee opposing, and two favoring the correctness of the ruling,) overruled by the Grand Lodge. We cannot help thinking that, on general Masonic principles the Grand Master was right, though the question was involved with a construction of one of their Grand Lodge regulations. The question was briefly this : Can the advancement of an E. A. or F. C. be stopped by the objection of a single member, who gives no reason ? To this the Grand Master replied in the negative, and stated that in such case, the Worshipful Master should pause long enough to give the objecting brother time to present charges, and on neglect or refusal to do so, in a reasonable time, he should proceed to advance the brother.

The committee (majority report,) “deemed this decision to be in violation of one of the fundamental Landmarks of our Order.” Where the Landmark is to be found, they do not say. We think the Craft, generally, would be interested to know. They concluded as follows :

“Your committee would, therefore, re-affirm the true Masonic doctrine to be that a member of a Lodge may object to the advancement of a candidate without being compelled to give his reasons therefor. Experience has demonstrated the

soundness of this Landmark, and your committee are of opinion that it should not be disturbed. Harmony is the strength of all institutions. In view of this great principle of Masonry, your committee declare that there can be no reason for granting in the most solemn manner to every member of a Lodge the right to secretly interpose his objections to the admission of a candidate to the first degree, which does not apply to the case of an applicant for advancement to the higher mysteries of our Order."

In commenting on this we wish to distinguish between the construction of the Grand Lodge regulation and the discussion of the general principles of Masonic law. The one we entirely refrain from. As to the other, we respectfully suggest that an E. A. is a brother, and that simple justice requires that he should not be stigmatized and deprived of his right to advancement, without being informed of the charge against him, being confronted with his accuser, and having an opportunity to defend himself and show the truth. Where the Grand Lodge regulations requires a separate petition and ballot for each degree, of course, a different case is presented. But where one petition and ballot suffices for all three degrees, and that is safely passed and the applicant becomes a brother, no objection being made up to that time, we know of no *Landmark* which allows the *brother* to be stopped from advancement unless upon reasons which the Lodge, after full investigation, deem sufficient. An apprentice who has served his lawful time is entitled to earn craftsman's wages, or know the reasons why not.

The Grand Master reported the appointment of our venerable Past Grand Master JAMES PAGE, as representative of Oregon in our Grand Lodge, in place of Brother JOHN W. GEARY, deceased.

The Report on Correspondence, by Past Grand Master Brother S. F. CHADWICK, is an excellent review of the proceedings of thirty-nine Lodges, among them Pennsylvania. The address of Grand Master PERKINS of 1872, is mentioned as "full of good counsel," and extracts are given; and Brother DECHERT'S Report on Correspondence also receives favorable

notice. Brother CHADWICK's report is especially full, on the subject of Masonic law, as he gives all the "Decisions" in most of the jurisdictions, and pays Brother TAYLOR of Nevada the compliment of extracting his excellent digest for the year, which we have already mentioned.

From the eloquent address on the Installation of the Grand Officers, delivered "before a large audience" by the Grand Orator, Brother T. F. CAMPBELL, we make a short extract. In the course of his remarks on the relations between Masonry and Religion, he said:

"Among well-informed Masons who accept the Bible, Masonry, as a chaste and modest damsel, beautiful in form and lovely in character, gracefully takes her place as the handmaid of Christianity, ministering with gentle hand and tender care to the peace of society, the spread of knowledge, the amelioration of suffering, the binding of the broken heart, and pouring the oil of consolation into the troubled mind."

* * * * *

This is eloquent, but it is not descriptive of Freemasonry, for as a *damsel* the craft is never represented. He concludes thus:

"Masonry is the utmost effort of the human intellect reaching up, in reverence and devotion to GOD: Christianity is infinite mercy, reaching down, in condescension and love to man. By it he can rise to glory, honor and immortality, culminating in everlasting life."

An Emergent Communication of the Grand Lodge of Oregon was held in Salem, October 8th, 1873, at which Grand Master THOMAS McF. PATTON, assisted by the Grand Officers, laid the corner stone of the New State Capitol of Oregon, at the request of the Board of State Capitol Commissioners. Representatives and full delegations from forty-three Lodges, (all in the State but one,) were present. After some remarks from his Excellency, L. F. GROVER, Governor of the State, the corner-stone was laid in ancient form, with a silver trowel presented to the Grand Master by the Commissioners, and an able and interesting address was delivered by Past Grand Master S. F. CHADWICK, which, by direction of the Grand Lodge, was printed with the proceedings.

Most Worshipful THOMAS MCF. PATTON, Grand Master, and Right Worshipful R. P. EARHART, Grand Secretary, were both re-elected.

There are 44 Lodges; 1,918 members. Increase, 188.

QUEBEC.

THE Grand Lodge held its Fourth Annual Communication in the "British Masonic Chambers," Montreal, beginning September 24th, 1873. Most Worshipful JOHN H. GRAHAM, L. L. D., Grand Master, on the Throne. Thirty-seven Lodges represented.

The Grand Master, in his address, after reporting peace and prosperity to prevail in the jurisdiction, informed the Grand Lodge "with peculiar satisfaction," that Quebec had been recognized during the year by several Grand Lodges—

"Making thirty-six grand bodies which have recognized this Grand Lodge, as the only rightful sovereign Masonic authority, in and for the Province of Quebec. This includes nearly all the Grand Lodges in North America, and some in South America and in Europe."

If, as we hope, the Grand Lodge shall adopt the recommendation of this committee, and the resolution appended to our report, it will give us pleasure to have our brethren of Quebec add the name of Pennsylvania to those with whom they are in fraternal correspondence. [It has since been done.]

It is very natural, that the attention of the brethren at this Communication should have been much absorbed by the consideration of their relations with the Grand Lodge of Canada, and (as somewhat connected therewith,) their relations also with the Grand Lodges of England and Scotland.

So far as the troubles with Canada are concerned, we are happy to say, that these are fully, fraternally and finally settled, as we stated more fully in a former portion of this report, (see CANADA,) harmony and brotherly love again prevail. So mote it be! Amen and amen!

This happy news reached us long after the Proceedings now before us, and so far as the latter relate to their difficulties, they are thus fortunately robbed of all interest.

It is almost a pity to mar this review by the word "regret," but we are obliged to express regret for the accident which deprived the brethren of Quebec of their report from the Committee on Correspondence. It was prepared and sent to Quebec City, for the concurrence of a member of the committee, and was unfortunately left in the Court House, when that building and its contents were destroyed by fire.

Most Worshipful JOHN HAMILTON GRAHAM, Grand Master, and Right Worshipful JOHN H. ISAACSON, Grand Secretary, were both re-elected.

There are 39 Lodges; 1,781 members. Increase, 135. (Of course, this does not include the additions made by the settlement with Canada.)

RHODE ISLAND.

THE pamphlet of Proceedings has a frontispiece, a steel portrait of Past Grand Master THOMAS A. DOYLE, and contains the records of four Communications of the Grand Lodge:—

I. *Festival Communication*, held in Masons' Hall, Providence, on Tuesday, June 24th, 1873, being the Festival of St. John the Baptist. Right Worshipful DANIEL BABCOCK, Grand Senior Warden, presiding; twelve Lodges represented.

II. *Special Communication*, held in Masonic Hall, Pawtucket, Thursday, June 26th, 1873, to constitute a Lodge. Most Worshipful NICHOLAS VAN SLYCK, Grand Master, presiding.

III. *Semi-Annual Communication*, held in Masons' Hall, Providence, on Monday, November 17th, 1873. The Most Worshipful Grand Master in the Chair, and nineteen Lodges represented.

A report was made by Past Grand Master ARIEL BALLOU, on the subject of the invasion of the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, by the Grand Orient of France, and the so-called Supreme Council of Louisiana; the consideration of which was postponed until the annual communication. (It was then further postponed to the next semi-annual communication.)

IV. The Eighty-fourth Annual Communication was held in Masons' Hall, Providence, on Monday, May 4th, 1874. Most Worshipful NICHOLAS VAN SLYCK, Grand Master, presiding, and twenty four Lodges being represented.

Rhode Island is, we believe, the only jurisdiction in the United States, where no annual tax (or dues) is required to be paid by the members of the subordinate Lodges. No doubt it was the ancient custom not to so assess the individual brethren, but experience has demonstrated that, at this day, it is a necessary innovation. On this subject, the Grand Master says in his address:—

“There is in this jurisdiction a very general feeling that the only contribution one should be required to make for Masonry is such as was, or is, made at the time of receiving the degrees; that, from that time forward, the Mason, his widow and orphans, are entitled to all the rights and privileges incident to such membership, including charity to the amount of necessity, as well as the right to Masonic burial.

“This feeling has thus far prevented any subordinate Lodge from adopting any by-law compelling contribution to its support beyond those referring to the reception of the degrees. The result has been, and now is, that the pecuniary prosperity of the Lodge depends upon the amount of work, as it is called, that is done: that is, upon the increase of membership. * * * * * There are evils attending this system which will not be elaborated at this time, not the least of which is the bringing undesirable men into the order, and for no other reason than a desire, or it may be a necessity, to pay the running expenses of the Lodge. We shall not occupy the place in the community that we ought, until this feeling is changed,—until there is a love for Masonry implanted in our breasts that shall prompt in us a willingness to contribute to its proper support. We all profess that love, and our prayer is that that profession may be certified in the future by our action.”

It is, indeed, a dark day for any Lodge anywhere, when the brethren, in voting to approve or reject an applicant for initiation, are influenced to any extent whatever, by the consideration that the Lodge needs the money required for the initiation fee.

Grand Master VAN SLYCK thus speaks of his presence in Philadelphia at the dedication of our Temple:

“There has been no prouder day for the Craft in this country than the day that witnessed the completion of that grand Temple, and its dedication to the uses and purposes of Masonry. That dedication was of a character commensurate with the occasion. Everything, from the vast and unique procession, surrounded by the masses of people covering all available space, to the grand and solemn rites in the Temple itself, told of the interest, growth, strength and enduring character of our Brotherhood.

“That procession was a living witness to the world that Masons meet upon the level, for there were seen those most honored by the commonwealth and municipality, as well as the humble citizen, clothed in the same suit of black, and white apron, marching side by side, united by the same bonds, actuated by the same love, with no other distinguishing mark than such as merit in the Lodge had given.

“This was a purely Masonic procession, on a purely Masonic occasion. No adjuncts were permitted to give gorgeousness; its sublimity was in its simplicity, its grandeur in its numbers, its greatness in the character of its integral parts.”

Most Worshipful NICHOLAS VAN SLYCK, Grand Master, and Right Worshipful EDWIN BAKER, Grand Secretary, were both re-elected.

There are 26 Lodges; 4,139 members. Increase, 119.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

THE Grand Lodge held its Annual Communication in the Masonic Temple, Charleston, beginning on Tuesday, December 9th, 1873. Right Worshipful JOSEPH B. KERSHAW, Deputy Grand Master, acting as Grand Master, in the absence, (because of sickness,) of Most Worshipful ROBERT S. BRUNS, Grand Master. One hundred and forty-eight Lodges represented.

The acting Grand Master read the annual address of Grand Master BRUNS,—which opens with felicitations on prosperity of the Craft since the the last annual communication.

“Since that time, under the blessing of Divine Providence, our Order has steadily gained in numbers and means. Everywhere throughout this jurisdiction, the reports indicate a most gratifying improvement in all the elements of permanent prosperity; and the splendid ceremonies to which the brotherhood from many parts of our vast country gathered, and with which the beautiful Temple in Philadelphia has just been consecrated show that the increasing interest in the high objects of our Order are not confined by narrow state limits.”

The announcement was made of the decease of Past Grand Master JAMES L. ORR, and of the Junior Grand Warden, Brother JAMES BIRNIE, the latter being only thirty-two years of age.

Past Grand Master ORR, was a citizen well-known beyond the limits of his state, being at the time of his death United States Minister at the Court of Russia. He was in Congress from South Carolina before the war, and was Speaker of the United States House of Representatives. When the civil war began he had command of a regiment in the Confederate Army for a short time, but he was soon sent to represent

South Carolina in the Senate of the Confederate States, where he remained to the close of the war. He was afterwards Governor of South Carolina, and, during his term as Governor, he was elected Grand Master of Masons.

“For three years he held that high office, and during his administration, the Lodges which had been dispersed by the war, were re-assembled, the broken altars restored, and the work of Masonry resumed in the State.”

He was subsequently appointed, by the President of the United States, Ambassador to St. Petersburg, at which city he died, May 5th, 1873.

By his death, (to quote from the resolution adopted,) “this Grand Lodge has lost one of its brightest ornaments; one whose eminence adorned, and whose wisdom strengthened the character and counsels of this Grand Lodge.”

We notice in the report of Brother ORLANDO SHEPPARD, D. D. Grand Master, a ruling which was made the subject of discussion. After an applicant for initiation has been favorably reported upon, and approved by ballot, a member of the Lodge, absent when the ballot was taken, objected to the candidate as unworthy. Brother SHEPPARD’S conclusion was right, as far as he went; he advised the Worshipful Master to stop the candidate until the matter could be investigated, and if possible, harmony maintained. It is, we believe, universally the rule in other jurisdictions, that before initiation, a single objection debars the candidate, and that no investigation is had, because the objector need give no reasons, unless he chooses to do so; consequently, there is nothing to be investigated. But the committee on jurisprudence differed from Brother SHEPPARD. They did not, from want of time, discuss the law, or assign reasons for their opinion, which was embodied in a resolution:—

“*Resolved*, That when a candidate has received a favorable ballot, the naked objection of a member not present at the ballot, will not prevent the degree balloted for being con-

ferred. The objector is required to assign a reason for his objection, or prefer charges, as the case requires, and upon the validity of which the Lodge shall pass."

As to every degree *except the first*, this is, we think in accordance with ancient usage; but before the profane has been made a brother, an objection without reasons being given is usually considered sufficient to stop further proceedings. But the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, B. RUSH CAMPBELL, in the report on Correspondence, (reviewing Virginia,) has recorded his "private conviction" in favor of what we think the correct ruling, and as the resolution quoted above was not adopted by the Grand Lodge, but postponed to the next Annual Communication, we have no doubt that then the question will be correctly settled.

Our Brother CAMPBELL will, we are sure, agree with us, that one of the best methods of training a Masonic lawyer, is to give him the Correspondence of a Grand Lodge to write a review of.

The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence simply presents the "Report on Correspondence" prepared by the Grand Secretary, as such, with a recommendation that it be published. Brother CAMPBELL reviews Pennsylvania in a fraternal spirit: refers to Past Grand Master PERKINS's address, as "well and ably written," and compliments Brother DECHERT's report.

Most Worshipful JOSEPH B. KERSHAW, (Deputy Grand Master, was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful B. RUSH CAMPBELL, was re-elected Grand Secretary.

There are 158 Lodges; 6,900 Master Masons.

TENNESSEE.

THE Sixtieth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Nashville, beginning Monday, November 10th, 1873. Most Worshipful D. R. GRAFTON, Grand Master, presiding, and three hundred and twenty-five Lodges represented.

The annual address of the Grand Master feelingly refers to the pestilence which devastated the western portion of the state, and especially the City of Memphis, in October, 1873. He says :

“Many a brother who was with us in all the vigor of health and life at the last meeting of this Grand Lodge, now lies cold and silent in death's dread embrace; and from various parts of our state there comes to us a wail of sorrow and sadness because of homes made desolate and hearts bereaved. O, how many hearts to-day are aching for loved and lost ones; O, how many sad eyed and sad hearted widows and orphans are bowed down in sorrow and anguish of soul, because God has taken from them the one upon whom they had learned to cling as the ivy elings to the oak.”

Most appropriately the Grand Master takes occasion to urge upon the brethren renewed efforts to complete the Masonic Orphans' Home, as a most timely charity. Perhaps there is no form in which this God-like virtue can be practiced, which more effectually appeals to the human heart than that of providing for orphan children. Like other children in their utter need of protection and care, their absolute helplessness; and unlike them in being alone and unfriended and unloved. We congratulate our brethren on the result of their efforts which we see in the announcement at the end of their Proceedings, that the pledges to the endowment of the Home already secured amount to upwards of \$250,000, and it was

believed that they might be increased by proper effort, which it was determined should be made. Notwithstanding that the gift of prophecy has passed away from earth, and the power to work miracles died with the last of the Apostles, the holy Saint John; it cannot be doubted that there is such a thing, even in this day, as entertaining angels unawares. We quote this time from the Great Light of Masonry :

“Then shall the King say unto them on His right hand ‘Come ye blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you, from the foundation of the world; for I was an hungred, and ye gave Me meat; I was thirsty, and ye gave Me drink: naked and ye clothed Me; I was sick, and ye visited Me; I was in prison, and ye came unto Me.’ Then shall the righteous answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when saw we Thee an hungred, and fed Thee? or thirsty, and gave Thee drink? when saw we Thee a stranger and took Thee in? or naked, and clothed Thee? or when saw we Thee sick or in prison, and came unto Thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, ‘Verily I say unto you, *inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto Me.*’”

There are needed no words of ours to point the moral.

In most cordial terms, the Grand Master acknowledges the fraternal assistance extended from other states, to the suffering brethren at Memphis and vicinity:

“In the name of the widows and orphans of Tennessee, I say, from the very depths of my soul, God bless our noble brethren of sister jurisdictions.”

One more quotation on this subject, we can not refrain from, in simple justice to noble heroism. No courage on the field of battle can excel this:

“I deem it my duty to commend the brethren of the Masonic Board of Relief at Memphis, for their faithful discharge of duty in the cause of suffering humanity. When Memphis was stricken with that terrible epidemic, which has

made so many homes desolate; when the inhabitants were fleeing from the scourge; when the dead and dying were being deserted, and but few were left to administer to the wants of our suffering brethren, the members of this board, with a heroism born of the true spirit of Masonry, bravely, nobly, stepped into the breach, and in their ministrations of love and mercy, held their lives not dear in the cause of suffering humanity. One of their number, the deeply lamented Bro. GEORGE D. PLUMMER, gave up his life in his devotion to duty. Truly have these brethren exemplified the principles of our Brotherhood."

Coming to the report of the Committee on Appeals, we find ourselves—as we always do on reading such reports—interested and instructed. It is there we get the well-considered views entertained by the more experienced brethren, on questions of Masonic law and usage. There is one case reported by this committee, which probably has no exact counterpart in Masonic jurisprudence. A brother was tried by his Lodge for unmasonic conduct, viz:—"for courting a young lady in good standing," (not Masonic, we presume,) "obtaining her affections, promising to marry her, appointing the time for the nuptials to be solemnized, and finally deceiving her and marrying another." The Lodge found him not guilty, and a member appealed to the Grand Lodge. He did behave badly, beyond question; the infidelity was bad enough, but he made it worse by the neglect to notify the injured lady of his change of heart in season; in fact, she did not know that he had abandoned her, until the afternoon of his wedding day. The poet says:

"Love endures no tie,
And Jove but laughs at lovers' perjury."

But this inconstant brother came before a very *prosaic* tribunal in the Committee on Appeals. They recommended the Grand Lodge to reverse the action of the Lodge below, find him guilty and expel him. The Grand Lodge remanded the case for a new trial of the offender, and he has doubtless learned by this time, that

"It is well to be off with the old love,
Before you are on with the new."

In the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, we note the conclusion arrived at, on the question whether suicides are entitled to Masonic burial. The Grand Master had decided that they were not. Instead of that decision, the committee recommended the following "Edict," which was adopted:

"Subordinate Lodges may bury deceased Master Masons, within their respective jurisdictions with Masonic rites, (when requested by the deceased, or by his near relatives,) whose lives have accorded with the principles taught by Masonry, and conforming to the Edicts of the Grand Lodge interdicting immorality."

We cannot but agree with the committee. It is a question upon which scientific authorities are not harmonious, but the better (and certainly the more charitable) opinion seems to be, that the act of willful self-destruction is, of itself, the most persuasive evidence of insanity. Love of life is the strongest instinct of the human mind. "Self-preservation is the first law of nature." When this fundamental principle is violated by the act of suicide, the presumption is almost conclusive that the reason was dethroned, and the man was not a responsible being. Admit that this presumption may be overcome by proof of intelligent design, (which we doubt,) still the Edict covers the ground. No one who has ordered his life by the principles of Freemasonry, could possibly kill himself while in possession of his reason.

The Report on Correspondence, by Bro. JOHN FRIZZELL, Grand Secretary, is a collection of decisions on Masonic law, taken from the various Proceedings received by him. He mentions having received ours, for 1872—which are not otherwise noticed.

The Grand Lodge of Greece was recognized.

Most Worshipful JAMES D. RICHARDSON, (Deputy Grand Master,) was elected Grand Master. Right Worshipful JOHN FRIZZELL, Grand Secretary, was re-elected.

There are 375 Lodges, (11 of which are U. D.;) 19,922 Master Masons. Increase, 384.

TEXAS.

THE Thirty-eighth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge was held in the Masonic Temple, Houston, on Wednesday, June 3d, 1874. Most Worshipful Grand Master JAMES F. MILLER, in the East. One hundred and twenty Lodges represented.

The address of the Grand Master is an excellent business document. From it we find that the Craft in Texas is prospering.

“The Lodges are prosperous and working harmoniously. Their membership is increasing as rapidly as is prudent or desirable. The number of non-affiliates is decreasing. The average attendance of the members at the communication of the Lodges has increased in all cases where proper care has been taken in the selection of officers. The Lodges have almost universally gone earnestly to work to enforce discipline and obedience to the moral teachings of our Order. Special attention has been given in most Lodges to the moral fitness of candidates. Brotherly love and forbearance seem to have been the rule of action; and the practice of charity universal.”

The sources of possible future difficulties are foreseen by the Grand Master in the evil of too rapid increase in the number of Lodges, resulting in weak and poor ones, unable to properly sustain themselves, and consequently exposed to the temptation of accepting unworthy material to strengthen themselves and pay off their indebtedness: and in the want of interest in Lodge business on the part of members, caused either by the admission of persons never really impressed with the true faith and principles of the Fraternity, or by the election of officers who cannot properly conduct the business and are unable to command the respect of the members. On the suggestion that measures should be adopted to compel the regular attendance of members, the Grand Master says :

“It is, of course, proper that the Master of a Lodge should be well versed in the Ritual, * * * but it is even more essential that he should have ability and culture enough to command the respect of his Lodge, as well as of the community in which he resides, and tact enough to enable him to make a Lodge meeting agreeable and pleasant, and that his character and life should be pure and blameless.

“If proper care were taken in the selection of a suitable presiding officer, we would, I am sure, have less complaint about non-attendance of the members. In any event, I think Masonry is purely voluntary, and coercive measures to compel attendance at Lodge meetings would result in a worse evil than the one complained of.”

We note without endorsing, several of the decisions of the Grand Master: we have somewhat abridged the language.

“A candidate rejected by a Lodge in a distant state cannot petition a Lodge in Texas, without the consent of the Lodge which rejected him. Neither time nor distance can defeat the jurisdiction once acquired.

“A ballot is not necessary to suspend for non-payment of dues, and one thus suspended is reinstated upon payment without any vote whatever.

“The unfavorable report of a committee does not dispose of a petition; there must be a ballot.

“One who falsely states in his petition that he never was rejected, must be tried and expelled, if he receives the degrees in that way.”

The *suicide-burial* question was decided by the Grand Master. Where the brother confessed grave crimes and then killed himself, the question to be determined was: *Is the confession true?* It might be the result of mental derangement. Let the Lodge determine what is proper.

“No one can vouch for a visitor unless he has sat in open Lodge with him: and his recollection of the fact should be so distinct as to enable him to point out time and place with certainty.”

On the subject of multiplying the number of Lodges, mentioned in the Grand Master's address, a committee remarked that twenty-four dispensations to form new Lodges had been granted during the year. It was a very important thing to know that they were all provided with a secure place of meeting. Already Lodges were permitted to share their rooms with Odd Fellows, religious and temperance societies. The committee continue:

"As a principle, we think that Masonry should be disconnected with every thing else, and that Masonic Lodges should have no partnerships. Complications have already arisen out of the joint occupancy alluded to, and new ones are threatening. The new order of Grangers have in some instances made application to use Masonic Lodge rooms, and permission is being asked of this Grand Body to enlarge the edict in their favor. Knights of Pythias, Heptasophs, and numerous other secret societies are multiplying in the land, needing rooms for the performance of their peculiar rites and mysteries. If we open the door to one, common justice demands that we should open the door to all. Twenty years ago the term Lodge was a synonym of Masonry. It now begins to mean, in popular acceptance, a place where secret societies meet. Your committee, therefore, think it is not only of prime importance that the subordinate Lodges have secure and suitable halls but also that they hold themselves aloof from all entangling alliances."

Certainly the brethren in Texas seem awake to the evil of having too many Lodges in proportion to the number of the Craft. Not only is it mentioned by the Grand Master, and the committee just referred to, but the committee on correspondence, in the introduction to their review of the year, notice the conservative disposition existing among Grand Lodges throughout the country to create as few new Lodges as possible. Yet we see by the Proceedings that dispensations for twenty-four new Loges were issued during the year, and at the same time the increase in the membership was only seven hundred and twenty-two. We presume that there were good reasons for the dispensations or they would not have been granted.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is from the pen of Brother E. H. CUSHING. Pennsylvania Proceedings had not been received. We regret this, as Brother CUSHING's comments are always courteous and fraternal, and inspired by a true love of the Institution of Freemasonry.

Most Worshipful THOMAS R. BONNER, Deputy Grand Master, was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful GEORGE H. BRINGHURST, was re-elected Grand Secretary.

There are 348 Lodges; 16,516 Master Masons. Increase, 722.

UTAH.

THE Second Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge was held in Masonic Hall, Salt Lake City, Tuesday, November 11th, 1873. Most Worshipful REUBEN H. ROBERTSON, Grand Master, in the Chair, and five Lodges represented.

The Grand Master sets a good example to his successors in his persistent refusal to grant special dispensations to confer degrees, a prerogative which is and should be sparingly exercised. In his address, the Grand Master thus refers to the dedication of our Temple:

“On behalf of the Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge, I acknowledge the receipt of an invitation from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania to participate in the ceremony of dedicating the New Masonic Temple at Philadelphia, September 26th, 1873, and regret that circumstances were such as to prevent us from having representatives present on that auspicious occasion. We send greeting to our brothers on the completion of such a magnificent Temple. It is a work worthy of their zeal and enterprise, and is another evidence of the increasing power of the ‘Mystic Brotherhood.’”

We note with pleasure that the Craft is prospering in this infant jurisdiction. The membership about doubled during the year, and great care is taken in making Masons to keep out the unworthy material, and every element of discord.

The Proceedings show that the true Masonic spirit, and zeal for the advancement of the Craft in light and virtue burns brightly in Utah.

The Grand Librarian's report acknowledges obligation to Brother CHARLES E. MEYER, Chairman of our Library Committee, among others.

Brother CHRISTOPHER DIEHL, Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, and Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, prepared a report reviewing the proceedings of forty-four American Grand Lodges, which we would have been greatly pleased to see, but owing to the cost of printing so long a document, only the introduction is in the published proceedings. But *ex pede Herculem*. The portion we have convinces us that Brother DIEHL is too modest by more than half, and that the archives of the Grand Lodge of Utah contain a document which deserves to see the light.

“Full many a gem of purest ray serene,
The dark unfathomed caves of ocean bear:
Full many a flower is born to blush unseen,
And waste its sweetness on the desert air.”

A very sensible report from the same committee recommended that it was not expedient to recognize the Grand Orient of Hungary, from which we extract a single remark:

“The Grand Orient of Hungary being organized under the ‘Ancient and Accepted’ or ‘Scottish Rite,’ with the ritual of which only a few of the members of this Grand Body are familiar; the Grand Lodge of Utah, knowing and working only in the three first, or symbolic, degrees, should not exchange representatives with a Grand Body to which not every one of her members could gain admission, when in session.”

The report and recommendation were adopted.

Most Worshipful LOUIS COHN was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful CHRISTOPHER DIEHL, Grand Secretary, was re-elected.

There are 5 Lodges: 320 members. Increase, 155.

VERMONT.

THE Grand Lodge held its Annual Communication in Grand Army Hall, Burlington, June 11th, 1873. Most Worshipful PARK DAVIS, Grand Master, presiding. During the session, the Grand Lodge was visited by Most Worshipful JOHN HAMILTON GRAHAM, Grand Master of Masons in Quebec, accompanied by other brethren from that jurisdiction, who were received with due honors. Grand Master GRAHAM was invited to conduct the ceremony of installing the newly-elected Grand Officers, which he did in an "interesting and impressive manner," and the cordial thanks of the Grand Lodge therefor were tendered to him in a resolution, unanimously adopted by a rising vote.

In opening his address, Grand Master DAVIS beautifully illustrates the fundamental principles of Freemasonry, by contrasting it with its opposite—*selfishness*, as displayed in business, in politics, and in religion, by the grasping miser, the unprincipled place-hunter, and the narrow-minded bigot. We make one quotation:

“Thus our institution seems to meet one of the wants of our nature. Here, instead of engaging in the engrossing pursuits of business, we cultivate generosity and benevolence: instead of the strife and contention of party politics, we meet and harmonize our political views upon the broad platform of

true patriotism and loyalty to the whole country; instead of a strife to gain promotion, we seek not elevation, but rather to meet upon the level, and cultivate a spirit of equality and brotherhood; instead of sectarian religious controversy, our broad religious creed requires only a belief in the Fatherhood of God, and the brotherhood of man."

The address is much taken up with the Canada-Quebec troubles, now happily ended. Appended to the Proceedings is an edict of the Grand Master, dated February 28th, 1874, revoking the former decree of non-intercourse with the brethren of Canada and restoring fraternal peace and harmony between the jurisdictions.

Death has been busy among the veterans in this jurisdiction. The Grand Master announced, with suitable memorials, the death of six brethren—the Grand Tiler, Brother UZAL PIERSON, among them; all of them of advanced age, who had been through the Anti-Masonic troubles, and had "stood by the Fraternity at a time when to be a Mason was to encounter a storm of pitiless persecution, which often fell fiercest from kindred and family."

In all the jurisdictions, the living witnesses of the time "that tried men's souls," are passing away. There are in existence brief sketches of that wicked persecution, but there should be some more imperishable memorial. There must be a great deal of material in existence from which a Masonic history of that time might be written, in which the faithful souls who stood the trial, and were faithful through all, should receive the lasting fame their virtue deserves. Not many remain who can speak from memory as actors in the strife; but most of us can remember hearing from the lips of some older brother, now perhaps sleeping the sleep of the just, how the Lodges dwindled as the unstable fell away, how the prominent brethren were summoned, and interrogated, and threatened, and how, in many portions of the country, to be known as a Mason, was to be proscribed and avoided in all the social and business relations of life. Who will undertake this task while there is time to gather the testimony of living witnesses?

The question of recognizing the Grand Orient of Brazil had been, at a former session, referred to the Grand Master, who reported that he had not yet formed a definite opinion on the subject, and was not, therefore, prepared to make a report. No action was taken by the Grand Lodge.

The report of the Committee on Correspondence was presented by Brother HENRY CLARK, and reviews the proceedings of many American and some European Grand Lodges. Our Proceedings for 1872 received fraternal notice. Of the annual address on St. John's Day, 1872, he says:

"The address of Grand Master PERKINS, delivered after his installation, indicates solid dignity and classic eloquence which ever characterize the addresses of those who occupy the Oriental Chair in this ancient jurisdiction."

Most Worshipful PARK DAVIS Grand Master, and Right Worshipful HENRY CLARK, Grand Secretary, were both re-elected.

There are 100 Lodges; 10,447 members. Increase, 158.

VIRGINIA.

THE Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge was held at St. Alban's Hall, Richmond, on Monday, December 8th, 1873. Most Worshipful ROBERT E. WITHERS, Grand Master, in the Chair, and one hundred and twenty Lodges represented.

The opening of the Grand Master's address contained the announeement of the death of the venerable Brother LEVI L. STEVENSON, Past Grand Master of Masons in Virginia, who, on the 20th of August, 1873, "full of years and honors, laid down his working tools at the summons of our Supreme Grand Master, and passed from his labors on earth to his reward in heaven." In eloquent terms the Grand Master referred to his long service of fifty-three years in the Grand Lodge as one of its most active members; his love of the Fraternity and his devotion to its interests; and his pure and virtuous life.

The Committee on the Grand Master's address thus speaks of the deceased:

"None of those that have gone before was more loved; none more honored. He occupied a very prominent and enviable position in our Institution. As a member, then Worshipful Master, and finally Grand Master, he showed the zeal of one who felt that the work of Masonry was a power in the reformation and training of man for higher interests than the merely temporal. He was, therefore, a model, as a workman and a Mason, and made accuracy and neatness mark every Masonic act. He was exact in the performance of his work, and he required the same of all about him. Few have died more honored by the Fraternity than was Past Grand Master STEVENSON."

Speaking of the "Gift Concert" at Norfolk, to procure funds for the completion of a Masonic Temple, the Grand Master says that it was with extreme reluctance he granted permission that a circular should be sent to the Lodges in Virginia, asking assistance by the purchase of tickets, although there were precedents in the Grand Lodge to warrant his action. It is true, as matter of history, that the world has changed its opinions in the last hundred years on the subject of gambling; or of lotteries or similar schemes, which involve the same principle. There are churches in this country,—more in number perhaps than many are aware of,—which were built, in part, with the proceeds of lotteries. It is well known that several in Philadelphia were assisted in this way. Public morals have greatly advanced in this matter, and gambling is now regarded as a dangerous and debasing vice; one of the most dangerous, looking to its baneful results, that can beset the path of the young adventurer into life. We sincerely trust that the good advice of the Grand Master may be strictly followed, and that such ill-matched words as "Masonic Lottery," or "Masonic Gift-Concert," may never appear joined together by the authority of any lawfully constituted Lodge. We are content to tread upon the old ways, and be conservative in many things, but our Fraternity, whose foundations are the principles of the purest morality, cannot afford to be behind the age in any matter involving a high standard of moral virtue.

Touching the dedication of our Temple, we quote the following from the address:

"As the head of our Order in this state, I received a courteous and fraternal invitation from the Grand Master of the State of Pennsylvania to be present at the dedication ceremonies upon the completion of the New Temple in Philadelphia, on the 26th of September last. It was with profound regret that I was compelled to decline the distinguished honor of representing you on that delightful and imposing occasion, and of tendering my congratulations to the brethren of that jurisdiction upon the completion of the most magnificent Masonic edifice in America, if not indeed in the world."

The Grand Secretary presented a report of his transactions in reference to the re-publication of the Grand Lodge proceedings, showing his arrangements for making a most attractive volume, embellished with portraits of early Grand Masters, and enriched by a history of Masonry in Virginia from 1733 to 1777, from the pen of the venerable Grand Secretary himself, settling the question of the first establishment of Masonry in America. [We quote a single sentence which will put our erudite Library Committee on the *qui vive*.]

“This I have proved from authentic records, was accomplished by Virginia, which required much labor and time, as it necessarily involved a history of Masonry in Virginia from 1733 to 1777, a space of forty-four years before this or any other Grand Lodge was formed according to law.”

The first volume, then nearly ready for delivery, brings the Proceedings down to 1822.

A very excellent Report on Correspondence was presented by Brother R. B. WELFORD, in which Pennsylvania Proceedings for 1872 are fraternally reviewed:

We quote one remarkable passage which we find under the head of Michigan, containing a brief sketch of one of the most venerable Masons now living:—

“The Duke of LEINSTER, who was Grand Master of Ireland for nearly sixty years, was perhaps the longest in office of any in the history of Masonry. There are few jurisdictions who can produce a Grand Secretary with a record to equal that of Brother JOHN DOVE. Brother WELFORD mentions the fact that a brother who was over eighty years of age, and had been for fifty-eight years a Master Mason, was received with honor by the Grand Lodge of Michigan, and invited to a seat in the East, and continues as follows:

““If any of our Michigan brethren should chance to visit us, we can promise him a no less gratification. Even before he recovers from the embarrassment of introduction, and assumes his seat, his attention will be arrested by the presence of a venerable brother sitting at his desk upon the left of the

Most Worshipful Grand Master. Our visiting brother will ask his neighbor the name of that venerable brother, and his prompt reply will be fraught with all the pride and affection with which an honest manhood ever turns to an honored ancestry. That venerable man is JOHN DOVE! whose name, household word as it is, among us Masons of Virginia, is known and honored by the Fraternity in all the land. There still continue with us some other venerable brethren who sat with him in Richmond Lodge, No. 10, when JOHN MARSHALL welcomed LA FAYETTE on his American tour, these forty-eight years ago. For more than fifty-eight years, day in and night out, the records of the Grand Lodge of Virginia attest his ever punctual presence. Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter for fifty-four years, of the Grand Encampment for thirty-one years, and of the Grand Lodge for thirty-eight years; he is now the oldest living Grand Secretary in the world. For more than half a century, in a life which professional engagements rendered always conspicuous, he has illustrated the high character of the Christian Mason, enforcing by precept and example the pure morality of our Order. How far his learning and his wisdom has availed in the deliberations of our Grand Bodies, and in the control of their subordinates, no pen or tongue can faithfully narrate. Suffice it that the confidence and esteem of the Craft, through these many years, has been so maintained as to ripen, in the mellowness of age, into filial affection and veneration.'"

In his review of Pennsylvania, Brother WELFORD notices that portion of Grand Master PERKINS's annual address on December 27th, 1872, in which he gives an account of his visiting the Philadelphia Lodges, on which he says:

"Sixty Lodges in Philadelphia, and thirteen Lodges in the country visited during the year. The year contains three hundred and thirteen days, excluding Sundays, in seventy-three of which Brother PERKINS was engaged in visiting the Lodges. If this requisition be made on the time of the Grand Master in these modern days, we may never hope to see a BEN. FRANKLIN or JOHN MARSHALL again presiding over the Craft."

Brother HENRY M. DECHERT's Report on Correspondence is also mentioned in pleasant terms.

Most Worshipful WILLIAM H. LAMBERT, Deputy Grand Master, was elected Grand Master. Right Worshipful JOHN DOVE, Grand Secretary, was re-elected.

There are 210 Lodges; 8,507 members. Increase, 39.

WASHINGTON TERRITORY.

THE Sixteenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge was held in Masonic Hall, Olympia, on Wednesday, September 3d, 1873. Most Worshipful GRANVILLE O. HALLER, Grand Master, in the East, and fifteen Lodges represented.

During the second day's session the Grand Lodge was visited by Most Worshipful T. McFADDEN PATTON, Grand Master of Oregon, who was received with appropriate honors.

From the address of the Grand Master we quote his remarks about our New Temple:

“Last month I had the honor to receive from the Right Worshipful SAMUEL C. PERKINS, Grand Master of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, a cordial invitation to be present on the 26th of this month, at the dedication ceremonies upon the completion of the New Temple; a magnificent granite edifice, south-east corner Broad and Filbert streets, Philadelphia, costing, with the ground and furniture, one and one-half million of dollars.

“Our Right Worshipful Brother writes: ‘It is the intention of the Grand Lodge to make the occasion a marked one in the history of the Craft, and it is our earnest wish to have a large attendance of the officers of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodges with whom we are in fraternal correspondence.’

“As my office expires during this Communication, I could not with propriety, accept the invitation, however gratifying

it would be to me to have the honor to be associated in my native state, with the distinguished Grand Officers who will assemble on this memorable occasion. But it is time yet, and I would respectfully suggest that my successor may be selected with a view to have our Most Worshipful Grand Lodge duly represented at this most interesting dedication.

“The photograph of the Temple completed, and letter of the Right Worshipful Grand Master, and instructions of his private Secretary, CHARLES H. KINGSTON, Esq., are herewith submitted.”

We regret to notice that in this far Western jurisdiction there is not entire harmony, and orderly submission to constituted authority. The Grand Master acted, however, with dignity and firmness, and the Grand Lodge sustained his action; the good results of which will surely follow.

An excellent report on Correspondence was presented by the Grand Secretary Brother THOMAS M. REED, in which our proceedings for 1872 are kindly noticed.

Most Worshipful DAVID C. H. ROTHSCHILD was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful THOMAS MILBURNE REED was re-elected Grand Secretary.

There are 16 Lodges, (one U. D.;) 649 members. Increase, 53.

WEST VIRGINIA.

THE Proceedings before us contain the reports of two Special Communications, and of the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge. The first "Special" was held in Clifton, June 24th, 1873, for the purpose of laying the corner stone of a Public School building. At the other the Grand Lodge was assembled at Wheeling, July 26th, 1873, to attend the funeral of the Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer Bro. WILLIAM P. WILSON, who had worthily filled that high station from the organization of the Grand Lodge. From the Proceedings at the Annual Communication we find that Brother WILSON was made a Mason in 1825, in Wheeling, then in Virginia, and was over twenty years in office in his Lodge from Tiler to Treasurer. He was a member of the convention which organized the Grand Lodge of West Virginia, and on its organization was elected Grand Treasurer, to which office he was annually re-elected. He was regular, prompt and faithful in the discharge of his duties. The Grand Master thus beautifully summarizes his character:

"He illustrated in his life the great tenets of our profession, Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. He was a warm and faithful friend; a kind neighbour, an affectionate husband and father, he was recognized as a generous and judicious supporter of benevolent enterprizes; a wise and willing laborer for the public good; and he held through a long and useful life the confidence and affection of his brethren, and of the entire community."

The Ninth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge was held in Masonic Temple, Wheeling, beginning on Tuesday, November 11th, 1873, at 7 o'clock, P. M. Most Worshipful THOMAS H. LOGAN, Grand Master, in the East, and fifty-three Lodges represented.

The Grand Master's address is short, but eloquent. He refers to the duty before the Grand Lodge "to correct errors, to defend truth, to rebuke intemperance and excess, to reprove tendencies to jealousy and strife, and to execute justice," and gives them a timely reminder that no institution, however pure its principles, and high its moral standard, can escape being hindered and burdened by the errors and imperfections of those who become its representatives.

"The precious treasure is committed to earthen vessels some of which, despite all our care in selection, are found marred or broken. The good seed does not always find a congenial soil; and too often, when the reaper comes, he finds either barrenness or tares."

The thought of the Grand Master is worthy of elaboration. It is a trite saying, that no institution should be judged solely by the conduct of its professed members. Wolves in sheep's clothing have always existed. The net thrown into the sea which brought up a multitude of fishes, enclosed bad as well as good. The field sown with good seed produced tares as well as wheat, and it was impossible to eradicate the one without endangering the other; "Let them both grow together until the harvest."

But there is in this connection a practical duty which Masons owe to themselves and to their Fraternity. Never to allow an immoral or unfit person to be put in such an official station that he will be recognized either in or out of the body of Masonry *as a representative man*. For although it is unfair to judge harshly of the Masonic institution, or of any institution, by the inconsistent lives of some of its members, it is not unreasonable that it should be judged of by the chosen representatives it puts forward. It is a matter of the first importance to the prosperity, even to the very existence of Freemasonry, that no man should be brought into prominence whose reputation in the community among whom he lives is not free from stain of every kind. What a mockery it must seem, and is, to place a man in the position of Master of a

Lodge of Masons, who lives, day by day, in open violation of the plainest teachings of the Masonic standards. We make one more extract, germane to this subject, from the concluding portion of the Grand Master's address :

"Before concluding my address * * * permit me to refer briefly to the importance of a faithful adherence in principle and practice to the sacred tenets and cardinal virtues of our institution. It may seem trite to say that these are of far greater importance than its ritual; and yet the fact remains, and is a reproach to Masonry, that Masons, here and there, and among them some who spare no pains to make themselves perfect in the ritual, are sadly indifferent to its moral preepts and obligations. Do not understand me to depreciate the value of high acquirements in the ritual. We should all be bright Masons. Let it be remembered, however, that the brightest ritual cannot hide a tarnished character. The ritual is only the shadow of the real body of Masonry. It is the casket which contains the jewels of Masonic principle and character. Too many of us carry easkets in which the jewels are either wanting, or so defaced with careless handling, that we dare no longer call them jewels."

We notice from the report of Brother JOHN W. HARRIS, Deputy District Grand Master, and from the Grand Master's address that nearly all the Lodges, (all, we believe, except four,) which have remained under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, have transferred their allegiance to West Virginia. The principle of territorial jurisdiction has latterly been so much discussed, owing to the complications arising in Louisiana and Quebec, that we sincerely hope that the proceedings of another year will show all the Lodges in the state of West Virginia working under the the jurisdiction of that Grand Lodge. It is a matter that time will surely right.

The Committee on Masonic jurisprudence reported in response to a question submitted to them that a Lodge has no right to make a by-law such as this:

"A fee for extraordinary contributions or purposes may be levied by a majority at any stated meeting at the discretion of the Lodge."

An extreme case had happened which brought the question up for decision. A Lodge with such a by-law voted an extra assessment of ten dollars on each member to liquidate a debt incurred in erecting a new Lodge room, and the question was whether the Lodge had a right to enforce payment of the tax. The committee reported that a Lodge has no power to raise money from its members except by regular dues, and the Grand Lodge adopted the report.

Another decision approved, was that a man blind in one eye is ineligible.

The Report on Correspondence, presented by Brother O. S. LONG, reviews a number of Proceedings of Grand Lodges, the review being prepared by Brother H. R. HOWARD. Bro. LONG remarks, most truly as we have reason to know —

“The labor devolved upon the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is probably greater than is generally appreciated by the brethren who read the report.”

Pennsylvania for 1872, is pleasantly noticed. Brother HOWARD says:

The ‘Extraets from the Minutes’ are almost purely of local interest. That in relation to the New Masonic Temple, however, we regard as of universal interest to the Craft, at least to American Masons: but at the time of writing this report, their magnificent Temple having been completed and dedicated, we shall omit comments, preferring to wait until the Proceedings for 1873 are received, which no doubt will contain a full description, not only of the Temple itself, but of the dedicatory ceremonies.”

Most Worshipful THOMAS H. LOGAN, Grand Master, and Right Worshipful ODELL S. LONG, Grand Secretary, were both re-elected.

There are 64 Lodges; 2,963 members. Increase, 299.

WISCONSIN.

THE Grand Lodge held its Thirtieth Annual Communication at Masonic Hall, Milwaukee, beginning on Tuesday, June 9th, 1874. Most Worshipful R. DELOS PULFORD, in the East, and one hundred and sixty-three Lodges represented.

The Grand Master's address is short, and confined to matters of business. He thus refers to the dedication of our Temple:

"It was my privilege to represent our Grand Lodge at the dedication of the New Masonic Temple in Philadelphia, in September last, and a grand temple it is; one worthy of the Craft. The reception on that occasion was also worthy of the Craft in that old jurisdiction. Your representative was duly honored."

The proceedings related entirely to the conduct of the business of the jurisdiction, and are therefore of local interest.

The Report of the Committee on Correspondence by Bro. GEORGE E. HOSKINSON, Grand Secretary, reviews the proceedings of a large number of American Grand Lodges, but does not notice Pennsylvania, further than to say that our pamphlet was received. The report was compiled hastily and under some exigency, which may account for the omission.

Most Worshipful J. P. C. COTTRELL, Deputy Grand Master, was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful GEORGE E. HOSKINSON, re-elected Grand Secretary.

There are 175 Lodges, (six of which are U. D.;) 10,962 members. Increase, 168.

CONCLUSION.

To our brethren on *Corresponding* Committees in other jurisdictions we offer our respectful salutations. The favour of the Grand Master in appointing us to this duty has entitled us to become candidates for membership in the Mutual Admiration Society. For this honor, we profess to have one important qualification; we are capable of appreciating and admiring the elegant productions appended to the Grand Lodge proceedings of so many jurisdictions. Where there is so much which deserves to be admired, and the admiration is hearty and sincere, it is an association to be proud of.

In concluding our report, your committee feel — more keenly, perhaps, than others may — its errors and deficiencies; for them we have already asked a kind indulgence. The labor of preparing the report has been considerable, but the pleasure and instruction derived from our review of the proceedings of so many Grand Lodges has also been more than a little.

The Fraternity in North America has grown and flourished to a great extent. Over a year ago, it was composed of nearly six hundred thousand members, and was increasing rapidly. In all the jurisdictions, the brethren are deeply impressed with the vital importance of a more careful and strict scrutiny of applicants for initiation and membership; it may therefore be said that there is a marked improvement in the *personnel* of this huge membership; a growth in strength and respectability, as well as in numbers. The amount of invested property belonging to the various Masonic

organizations, and devoted to their purposes, is large and also increasing. And among the Craft in North America, universal harmony and brotherly love prevails, since the settlement of the troubles between Canada and Quebec. Thus growing in numbers, strength, wealth and respectability, and entirely harmonious among ourselves, the Fraternity has a bright out-look in the future.

In all this prosperity, there are some drawbacks, as we have indicated in our review. It is to be expected that there should be; nothing of merely human device is ever perfect. But the evils are small, chiefly the results of rapid growth, and are being discovered and remedied day by day.

In our review of Canada, (page 87,) we had the pleasure of reporting that there now exists no obstacle to the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Quebec by this Grand Lodge, and we respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania hereby extends a fraternal recognition to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Province of Quebec, and that the Grand Secretary be directed to transmit a copy of this resolution to that Grand Lodge.

Respectfully submitted for the Committee,

E. COPPEE MITCHELL,
Chairman.

PHILADELPHIA, December 28, 1874.

[NOTE.—The resolution recommended was forthwith unanimously adopted by the Grand Lodge.]

CHAIRMAN COMMITTEE.

ERRATA.

Item in Balance Sheet "Grand Lodge Charity Fund" should read **62,848.00**
instead of 6,284.00 as printed.

Item in Balances, Nov. 16, 1874, "Real Estate" should read **1,919,126.95**
instead of 191,126.95 as printed.

